Sorcerer Hunters

12

SATORU AKAHORI
RAY OMISHI

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Sorcerer Hunters

Book 12

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Sorcerer Hunters

Book 12

by Satoru Akahori & Ray Omishi

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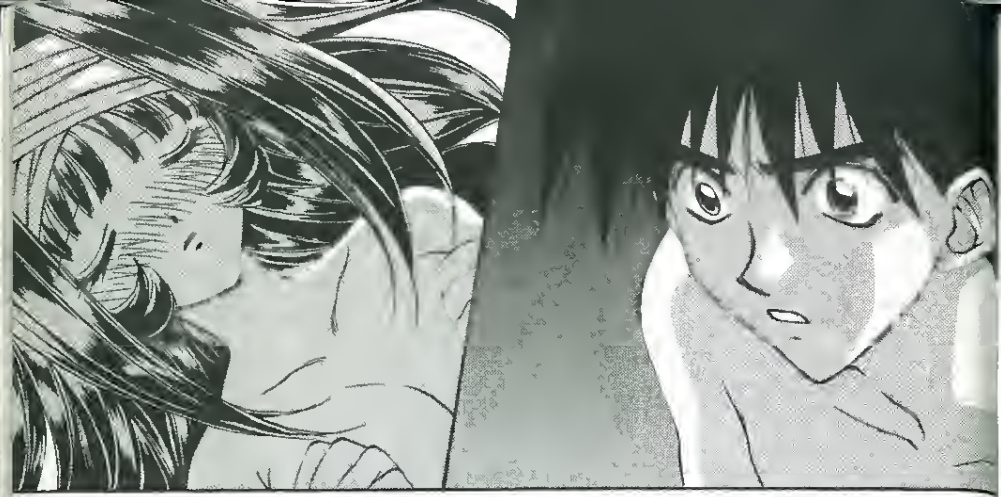
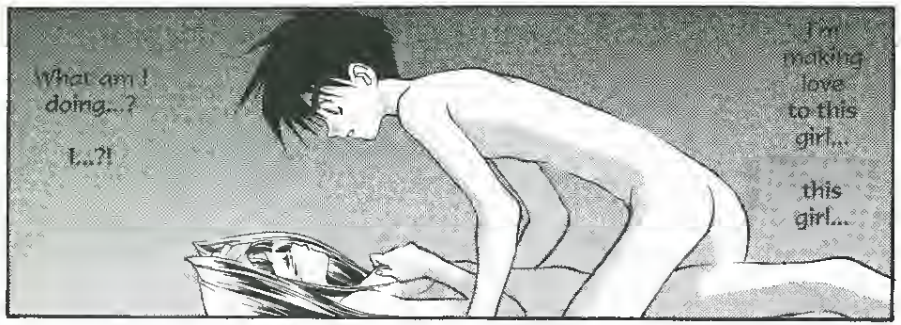
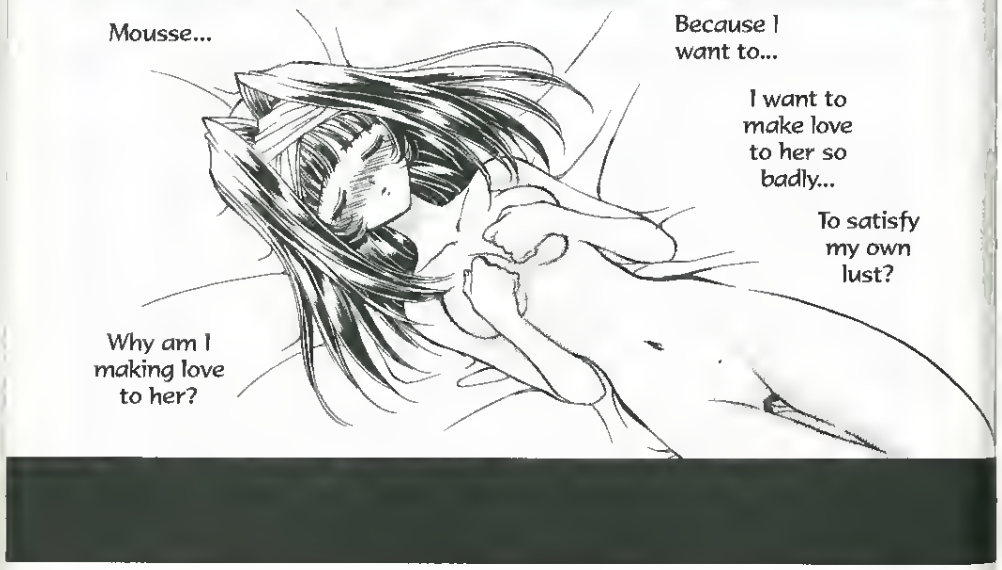
The Saga of the Sorcerer Hunters

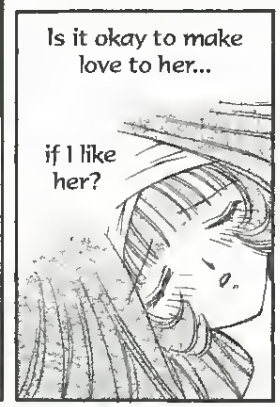
It began simply enough. Track down the evil sorcerers and take em out. For centuries, in the land of Spoolner, the lowly parsoners (those without magic) have been subjected to unspeakable cruelty by heartless, rogue sorcerers. Enter the Sorcerer Hunters! Big Mama, the powerful and all-knowing, self-appointed guardian of Spoolner, guides a daring group of freedom fighters in the quest to bring justice to this chaotic land. It s a rag-tag team with heart. Irrepressible Carrot Glac has an eye for the ladies and the heart of a beast (quite literally as you soon will learn). His lithe and beautiful younger brother Marron is a level-headed magic user. Young Tira Misu may look harmless, but when she goes into battle mode, the leather comes out! And Tira s sister, Chocolat, while a little on the androgynous side, shares her sis s taste for fetish-gear as well as a huge crush on Carrot. A crew like this needs a little muscle, and the chisel-featured Gateau s got that covered in spades. Now, sometimes even a Sorcerer Hunter needs a helping hand, and when that happens, Big Mama sends in her Haz-Knights. Think of them as sort of the Special Forces of the Sorcerer Hunters. At first it was easy. Taking down sorcerers who were getting too big for their britches. Guys like the Crystal Magicians, and the roly-poly Master Potato. But things began to get complicated as the hunters became the hunted, and bad blood pitted father against daughter with the dreadful appearance of Lord Sacher Torte. Now the Sorcerer Hunters find themselves embroiled in a struggle as old as the world itself, involving generations of family members on both sides of the battle-lines. The history of Spoolner is a long and complicated tale - lost cities, living cities, mad-scientists bent on creating their own Gods, and four Lords of Darkness. Exactly what the Lords of Darkness want remains unclear, but one thing is certain: somehow Carrot is the key and the fate of Spoolner is at stake. Poor Carrot is tormented by dreams of Lord Sacher, prophesying the coming of a God of Destruction. Then there is the lovely Mousse, who offers Carrot a shot at true romance, but who also may be much, much more than she seems. . .

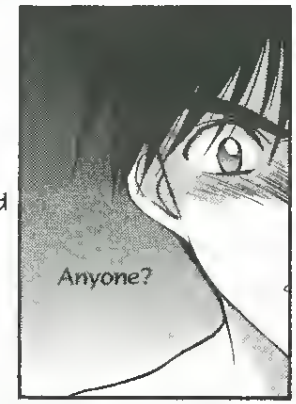




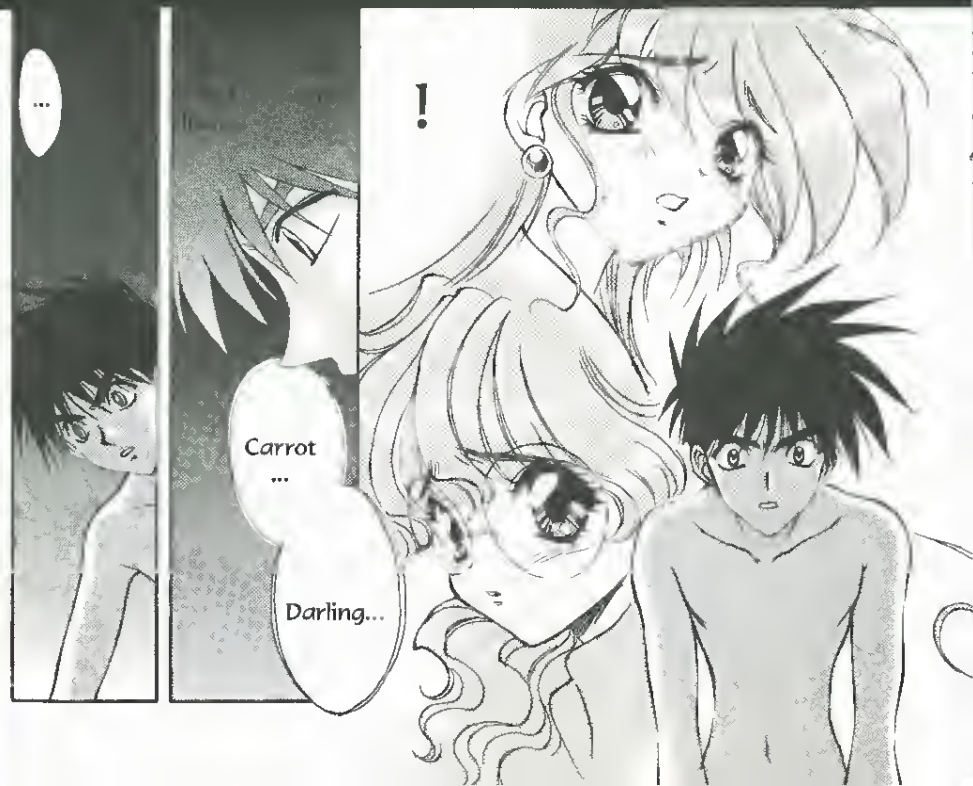


because I like her...

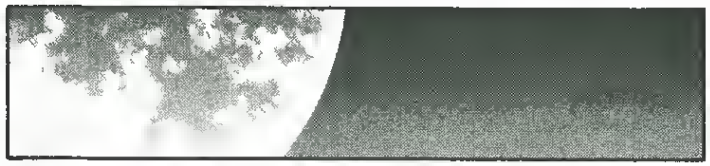


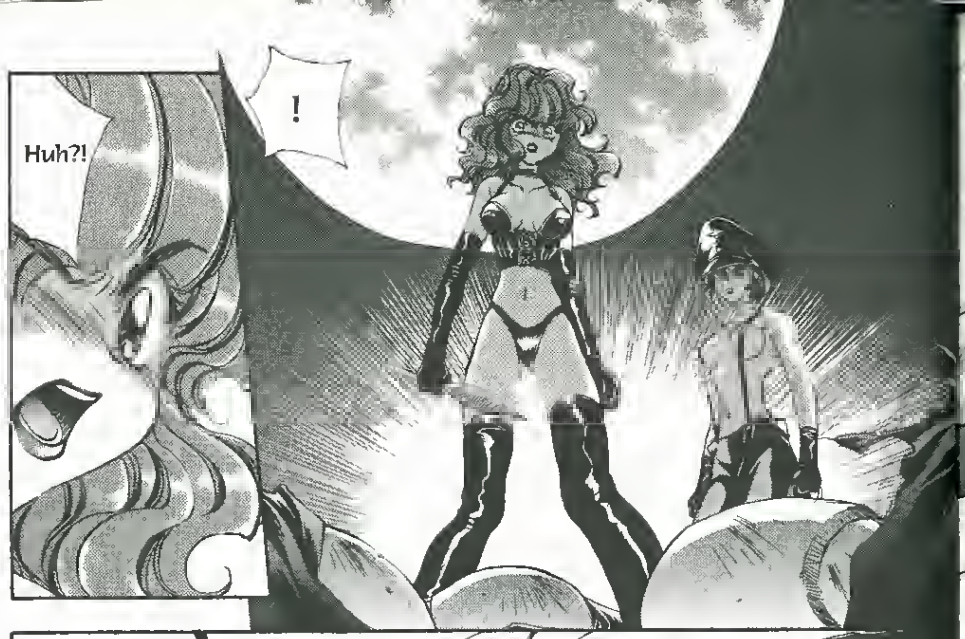


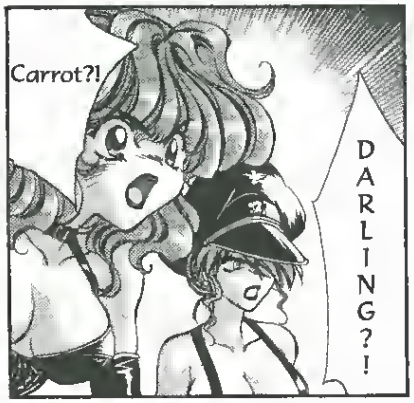
If I like anyone...?



The girls I care for ...

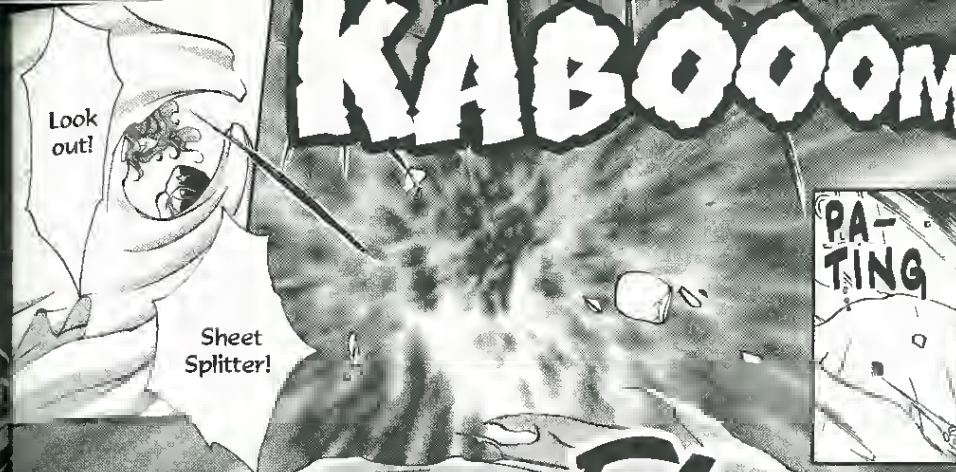




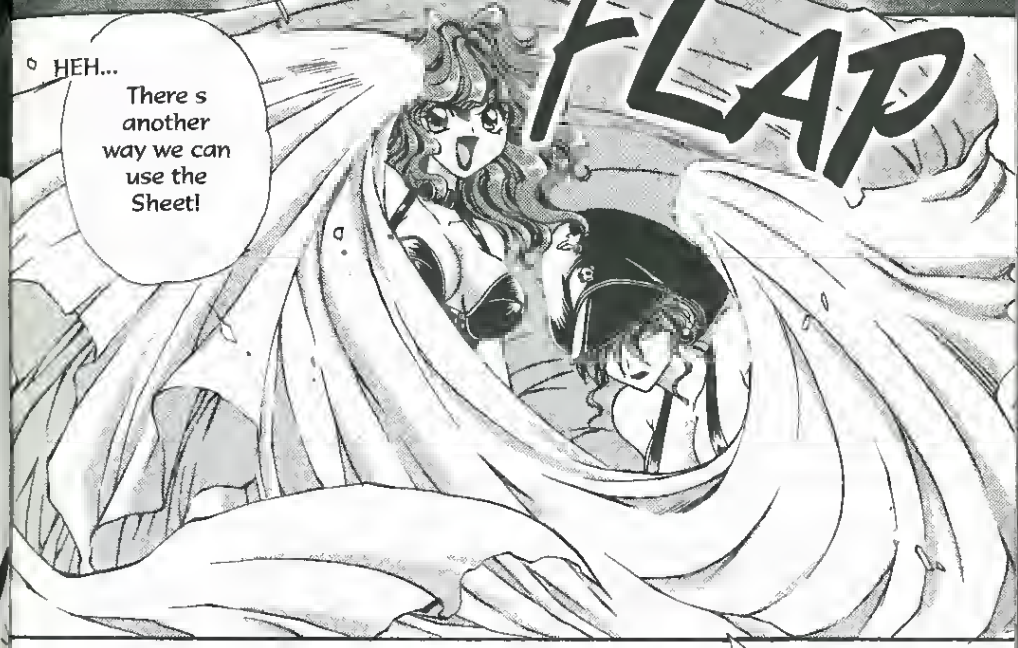


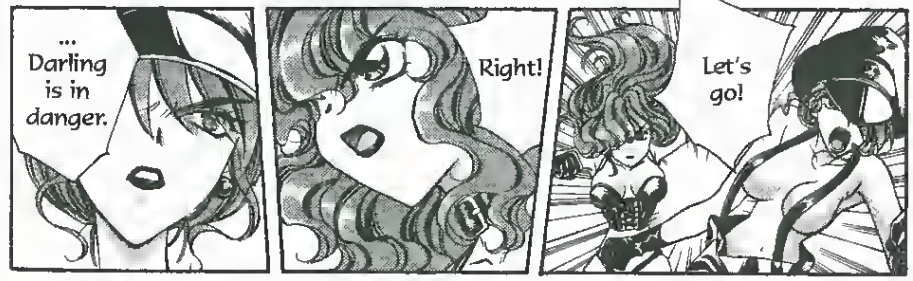
FLASH

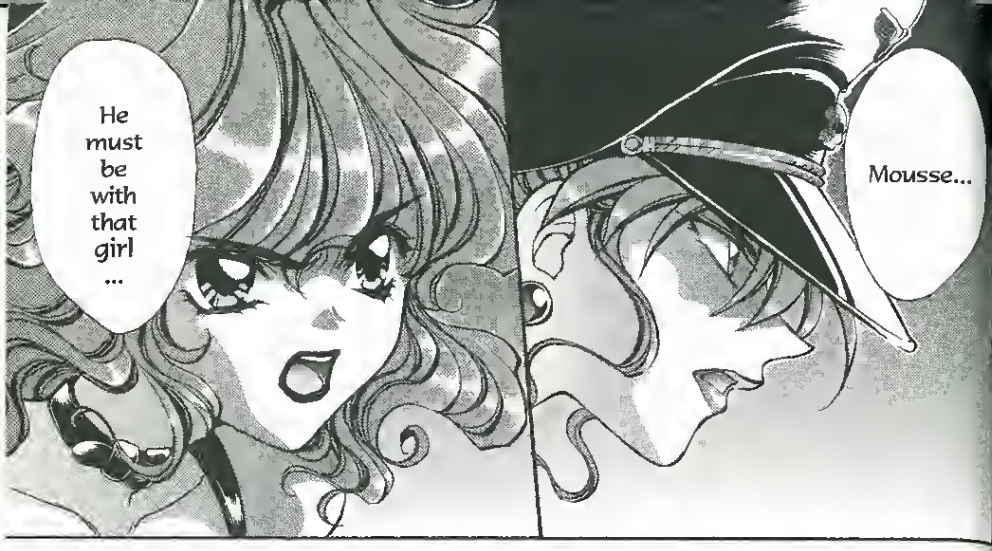
KABOOOM

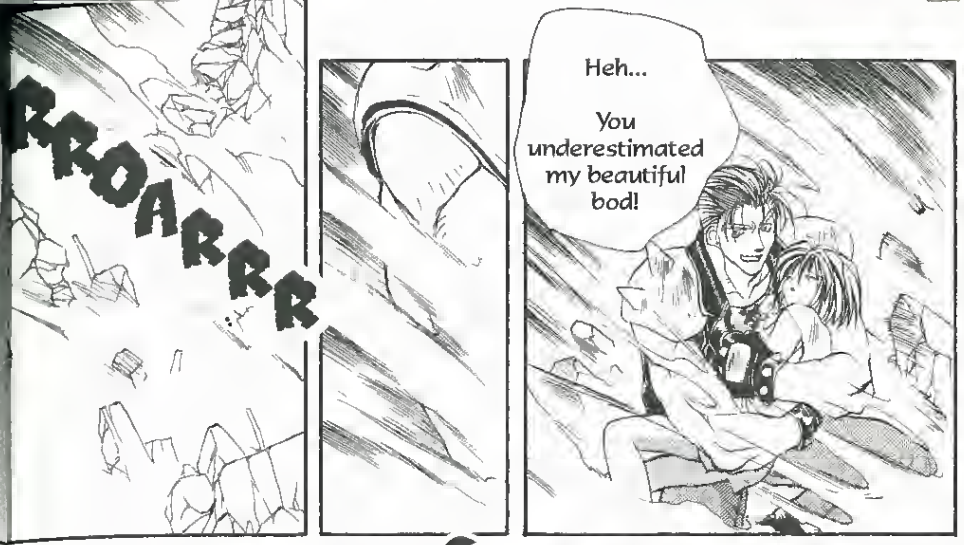


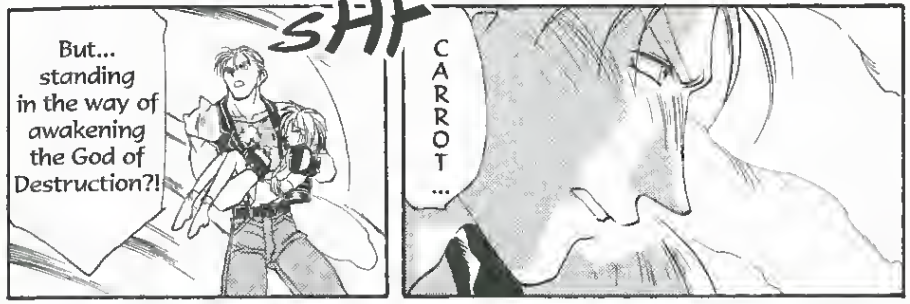
FLAP

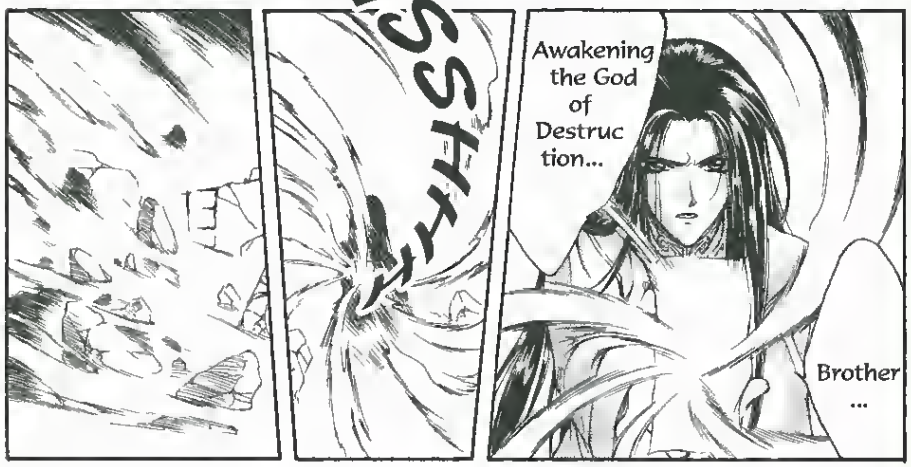


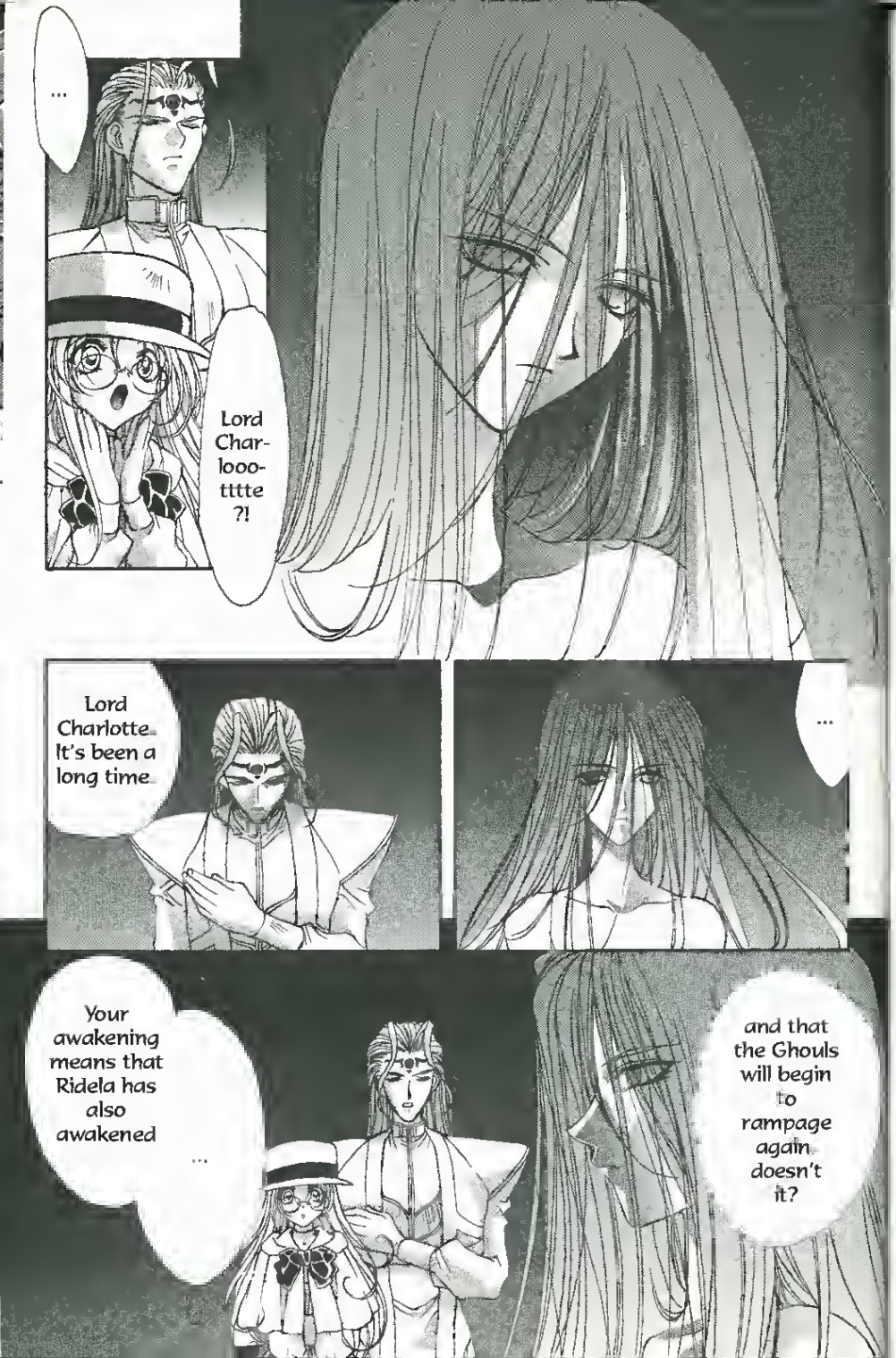


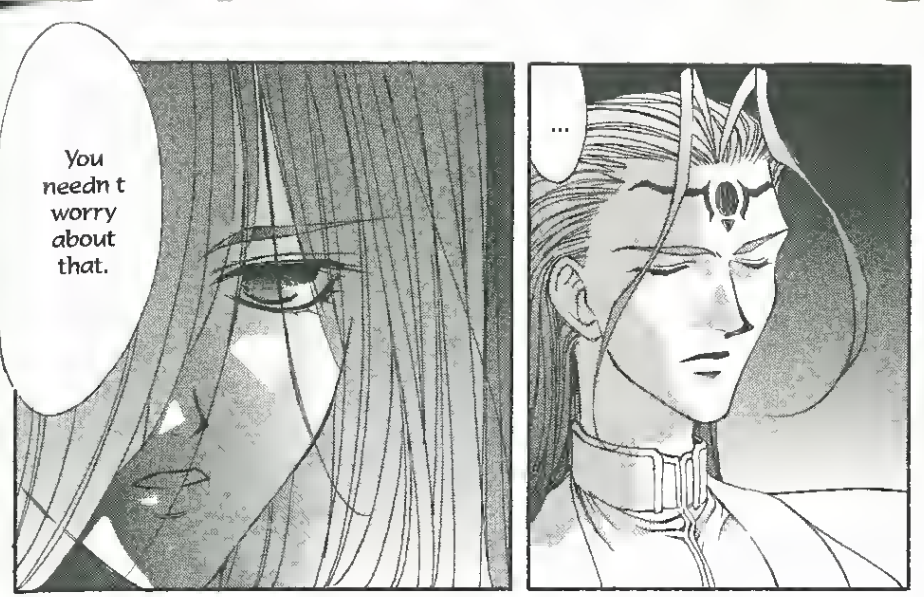

He must be with that girl ...
Mousse...


RROARRR
Heh...
You underestimated my beautiful bod!

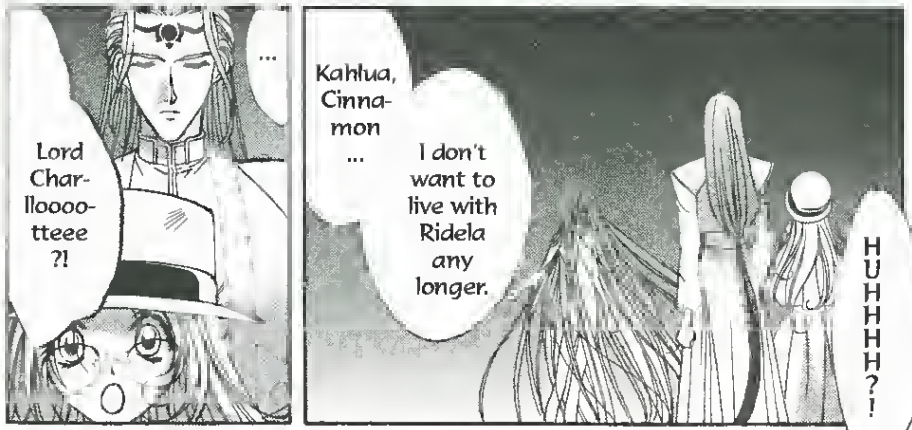

But... standing in the way of awakening the God of Destruction?!
SHF
CARROT ...

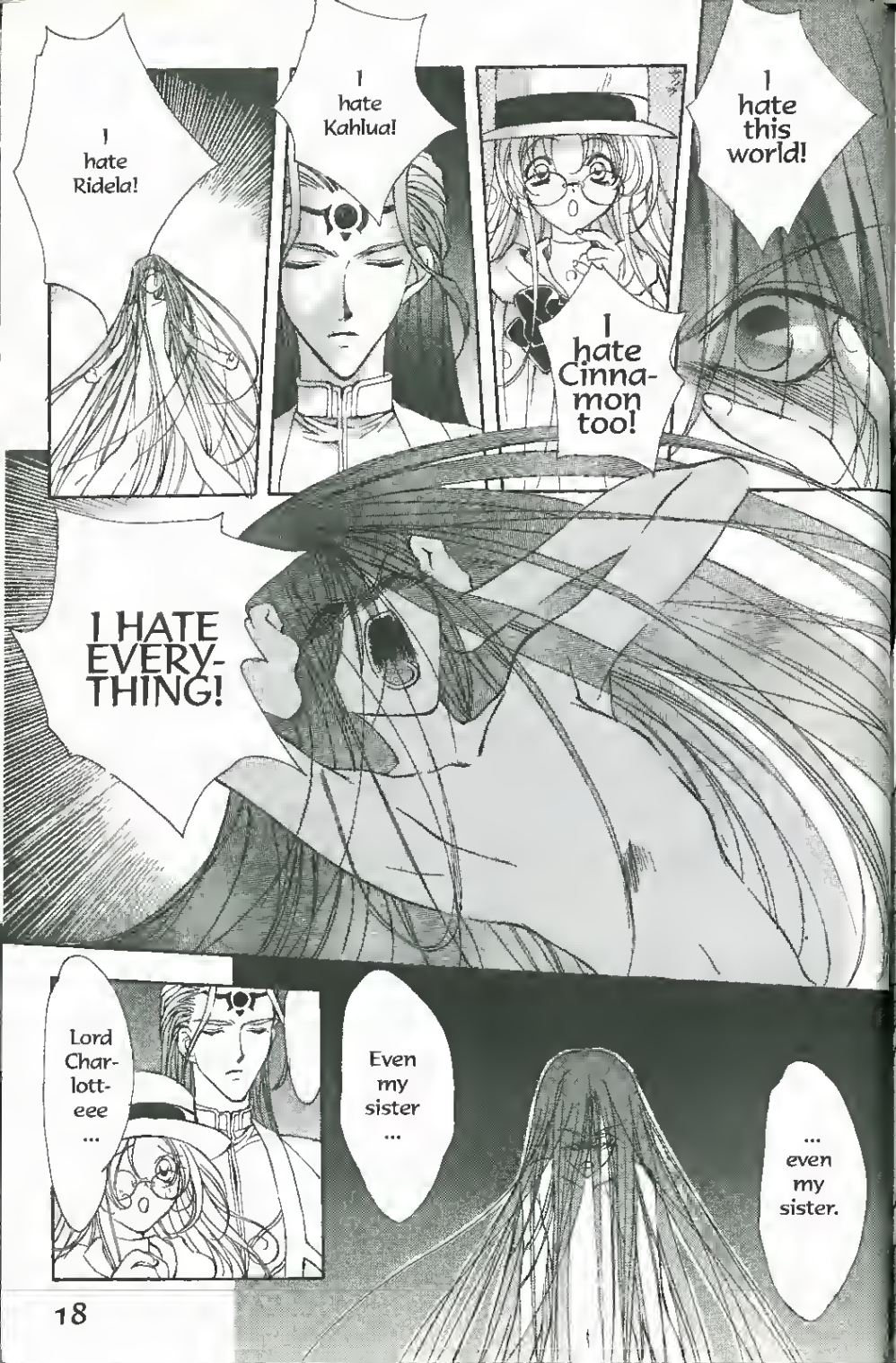

WSSHH
Awakening the God of Destruc tion...
Brother ...


...
Lord Char-looo-tttte ?!
Lord Charlotte. It's been a long time.
...
Your awakening means that Ridela has also awakened
...
and that the Ghouls will begin to rampage again, doesn't it?


You needn t worry about that.
...

Ridela is already under my control.
It will do my bidding.


...
Lord Char-llooooo-tteee ?!
Kahlua, Cinna-mon ...
I don't want to live with Ridela any longer.
HUHHHHH?!


I hate Ridela!
I hate Kahlua!
I hate Cinna-mon too!
I hate this world!
I HATE EVERY-THING!
Lord Char-lott-eee ...
Even my sister ...
... even my sister.

I even hate my sister!!
CHARLOTTE?!

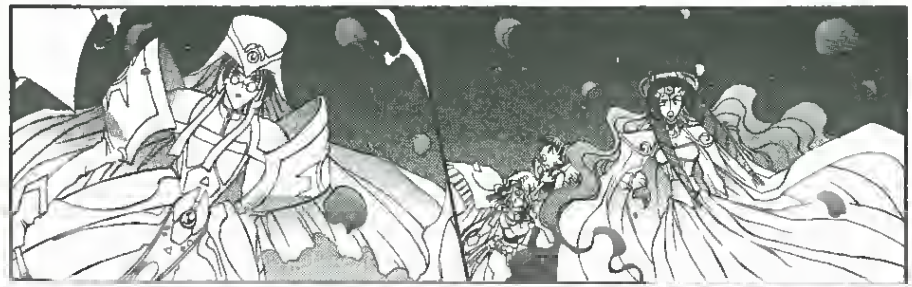
Mama ?!

Charlotte has awakened ... has Hordick been destroyed ...?!
Hordick ?!

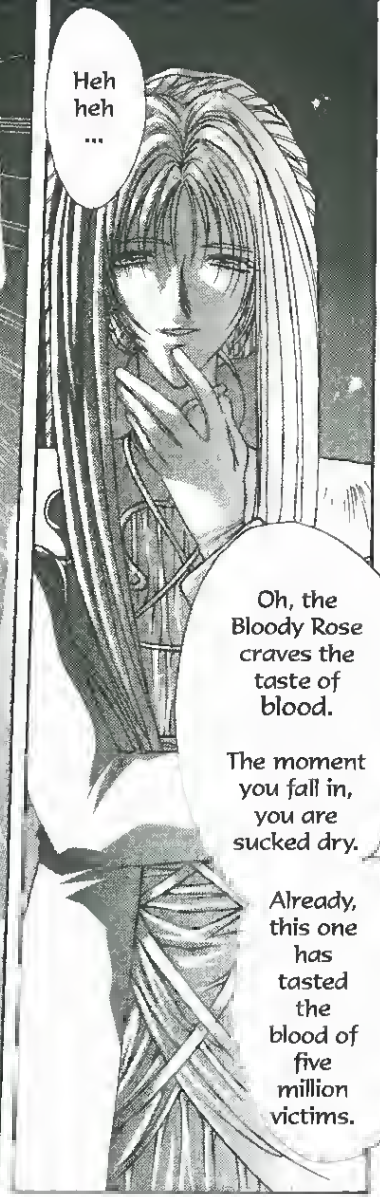
Lord Charlotte has awakened ...
That means you're following him now, Cool Mint?
heh heh...
Lord Charlotte's will is the will of Ridela.
So, Lord Charlotte has gained control of everything ...
Kanure Stella, that means you...
and the God of Destruction ...
Lord Charlotte wishes to rid the world of all that inconveniences him.
The God of De-struc-tion ...?!

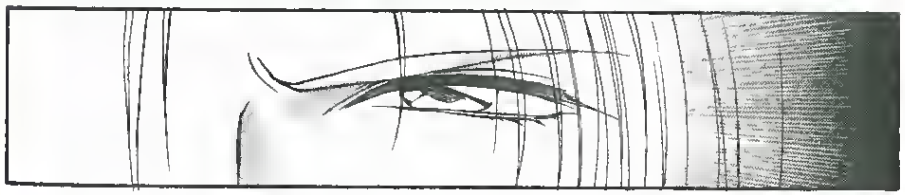
I think it's about time we end this.

SWSH
WSSHH



Bloody Rose.
VWOOM
YIEEEEE!!


Heh heh ...
Oh, the Bloody Rose craves the taste of blood.
The moment you fall in, you are sucked dry.
Already, this one has tasted the blood of five million victims.

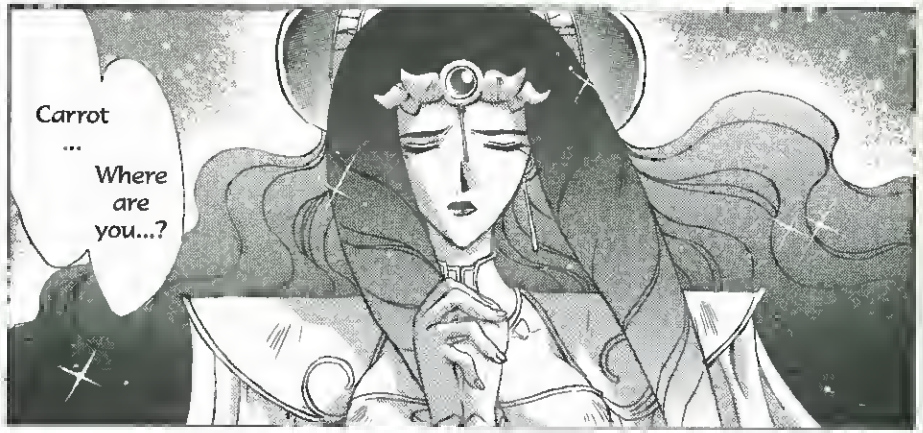


SKSH
SKSSH
SKSSHH
Chiffon ...
If it's drunk the blood of five million people ...
... then it shouldn't need that of four more.

If a test tube doesn't work, then how about a flask?
FWSH
SKSSHH
Ugh!
I don't think that will kill you...
... but it will give us time to pull back.

Charlotte
...

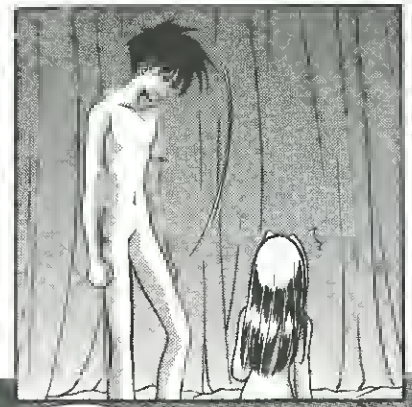
Mama! When he was talking about the God of Destruction ...?!
I know.

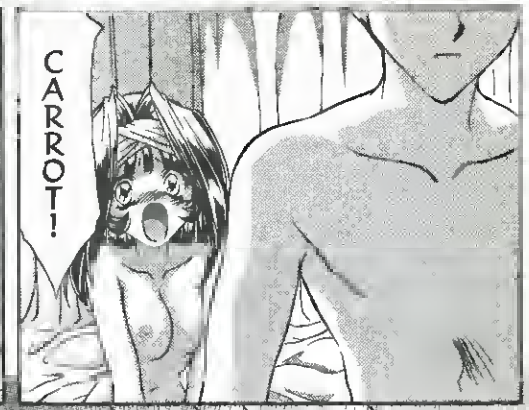

Carrot ...
Where are you...?

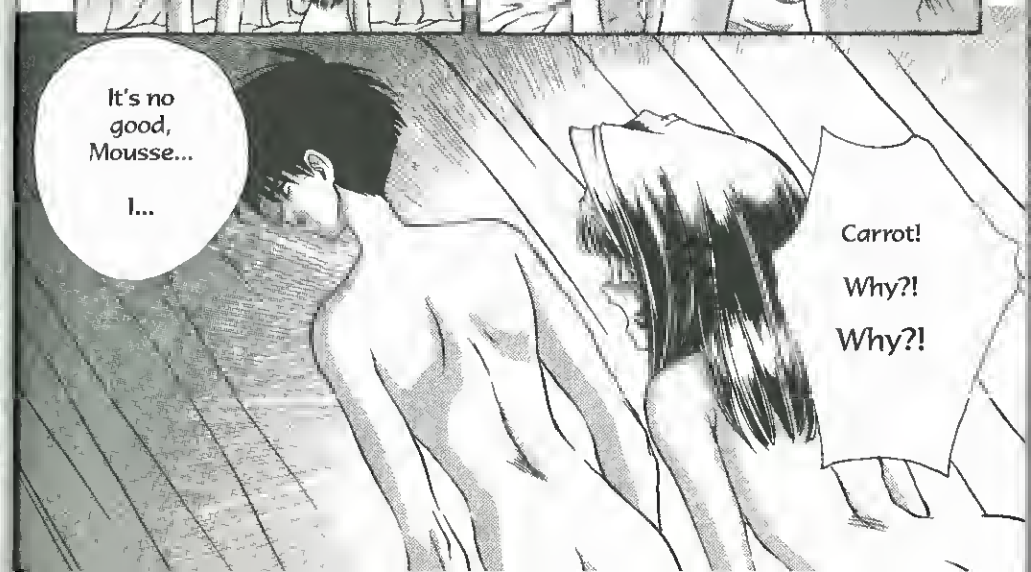
Carrot ...?
...

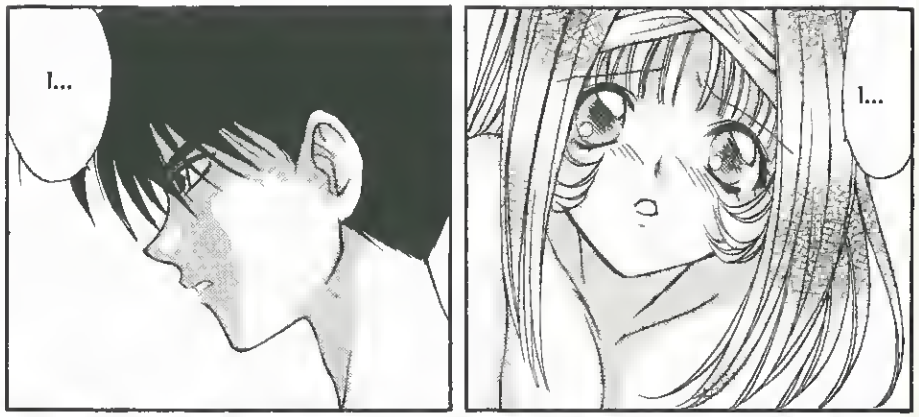
Carrot...

I... I'm sorry ...



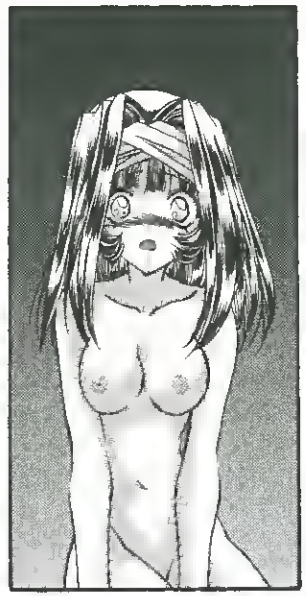

CARROT!


It's no good, Mousse...
I...
Carrot!
Why?!
Why?!


I...
I...

I'm in love ...
... with someone else.

I'm sorry...



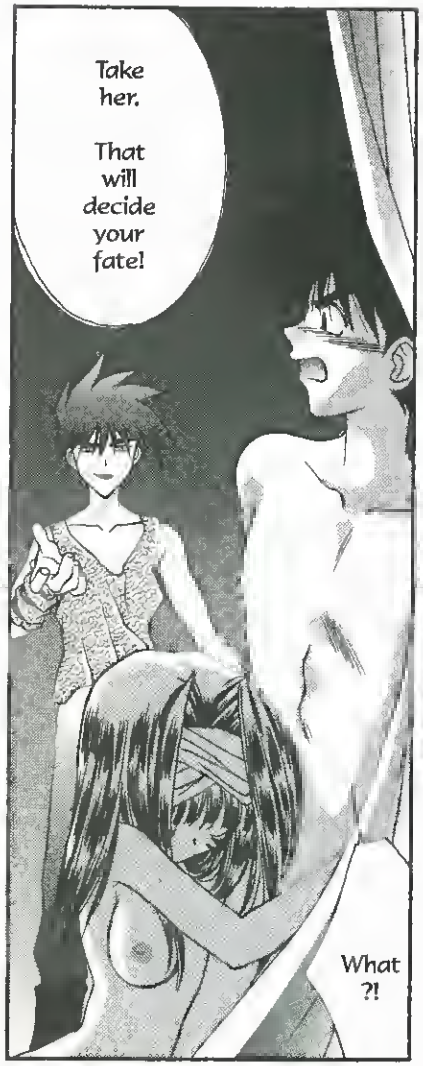
no...

NO!
I won't let you go, Carrot!
MOUSSE?!

You belong to me, Carrot!

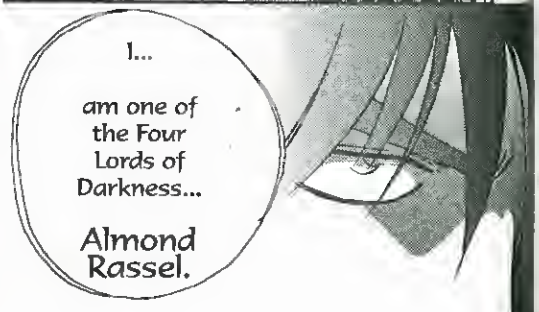
SWSH
Take her.

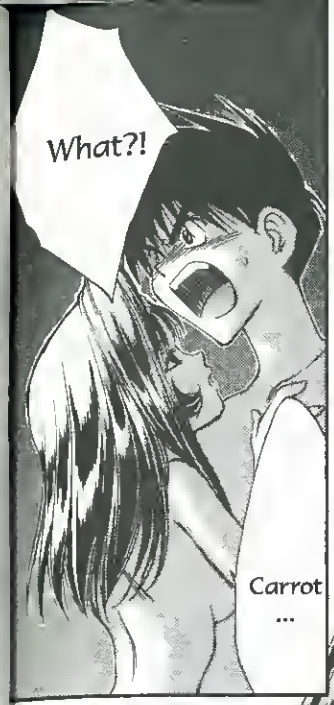
!


Take her.
That will decide your fate!
What ?!

Carrot ...

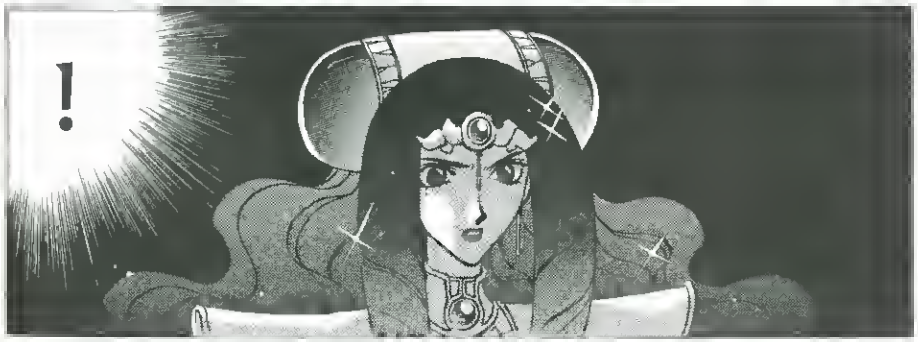
Who are you?!


I... am one of the Four Lords of Darkness...
Almond Rassel.


What?!
Carrot ...

!

uh ...


!

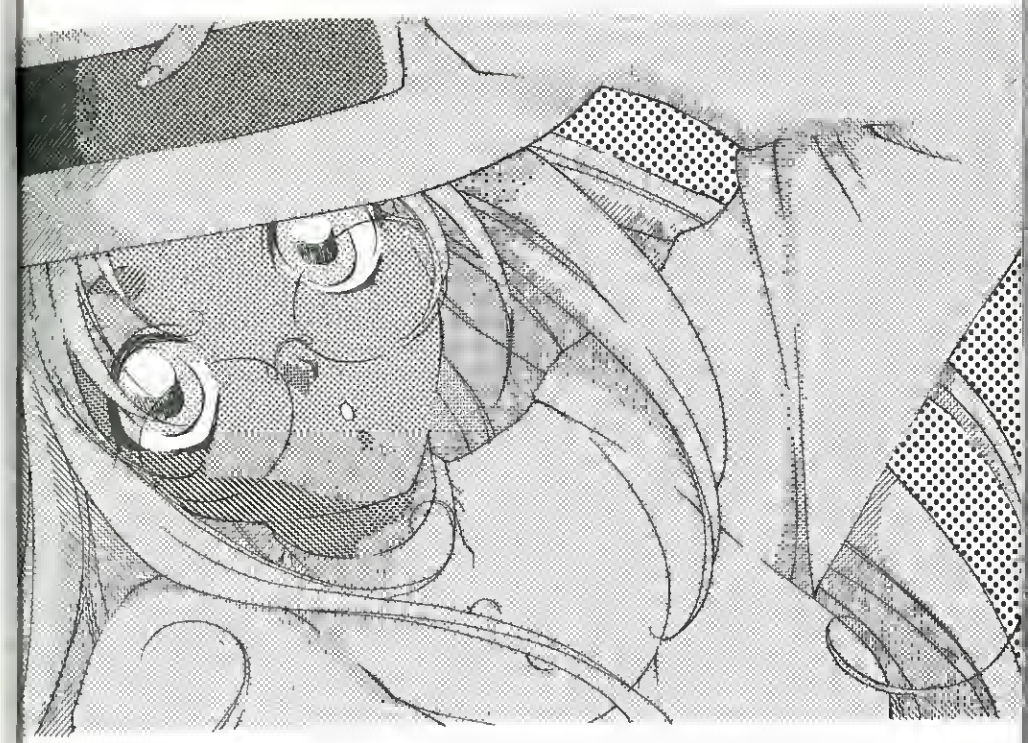
Carrot!
No!
Mama !!
Marron!
Tira!
Chocolat!
Gateau!
Go to Carrot! ... Now!
Bro-ther!
Car-rot ?!
Dar-ling ?!
Car-rot ?!

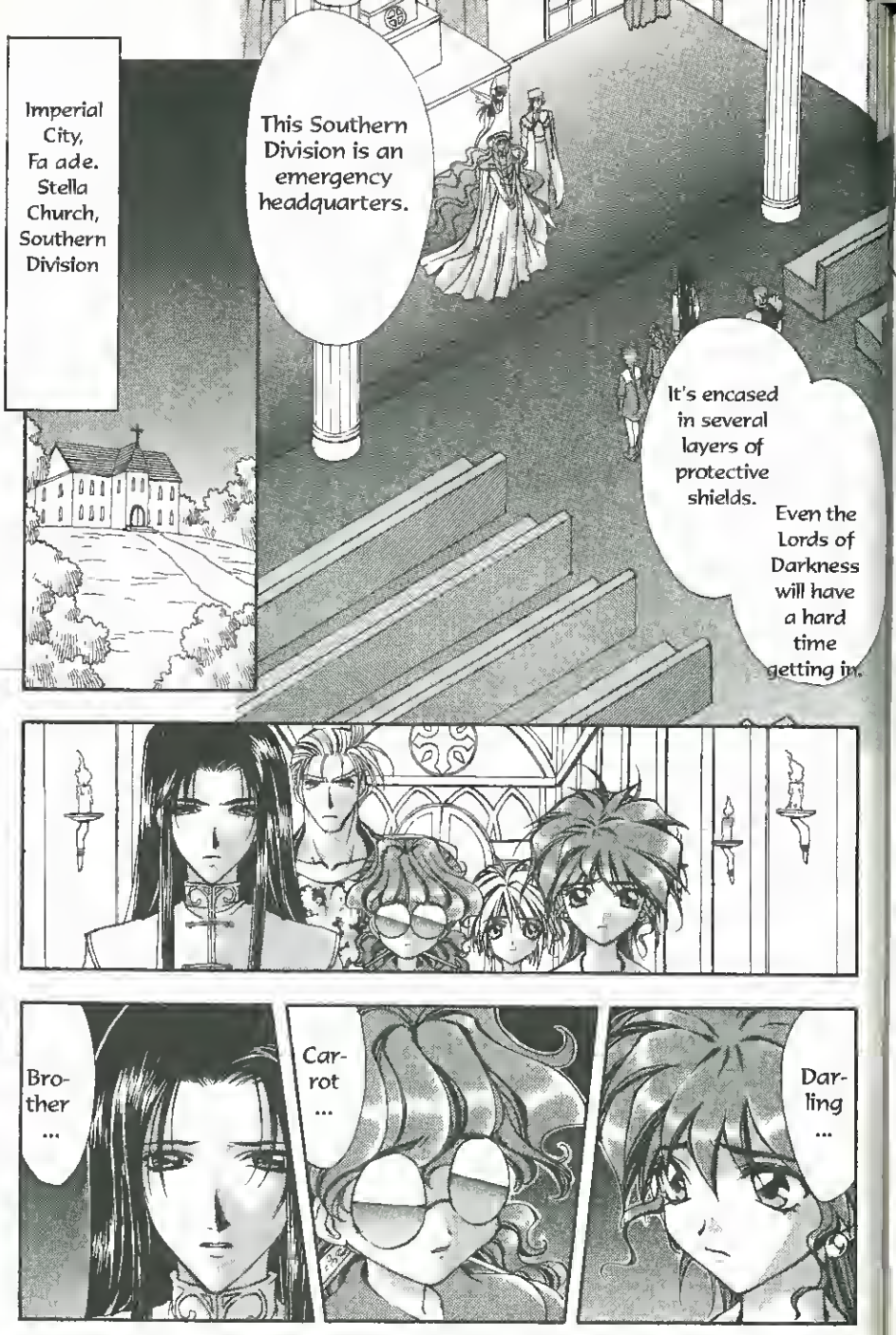
SHF
Bro-ther!
Car-rot!
Dar-ling!
Car-rot!
CRASH

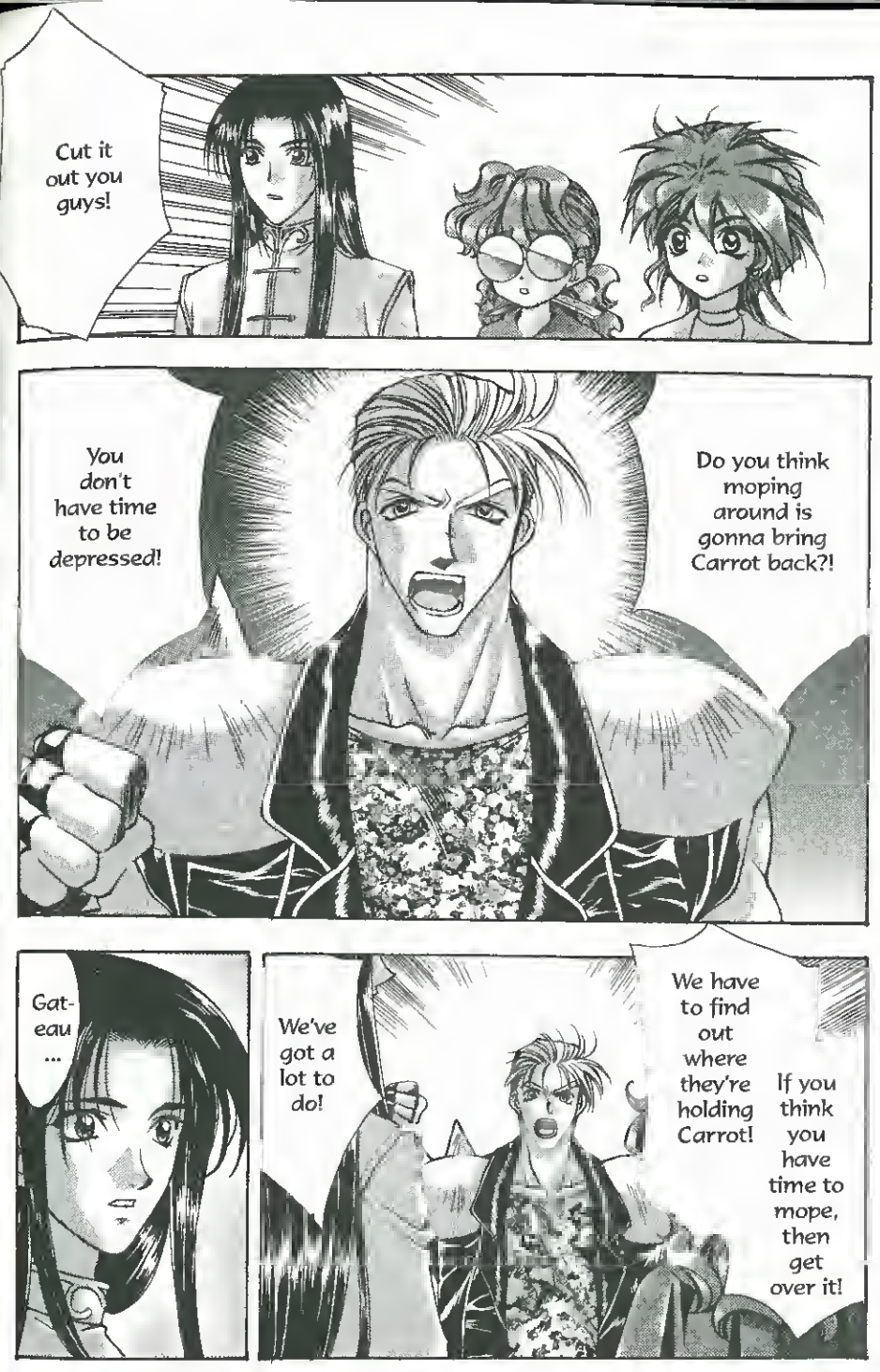
I, Almond Rassel, Lord of Darkness, claim Carrot Glac and the God of Destruction that sleeps within him.
WHAT?!
WHOOSH
Let go of him!
Bro-ther!
Car-rot!
Dar-ling!
Brother!
Carrot!
Let go of Darling!

SNAP
KOOOM

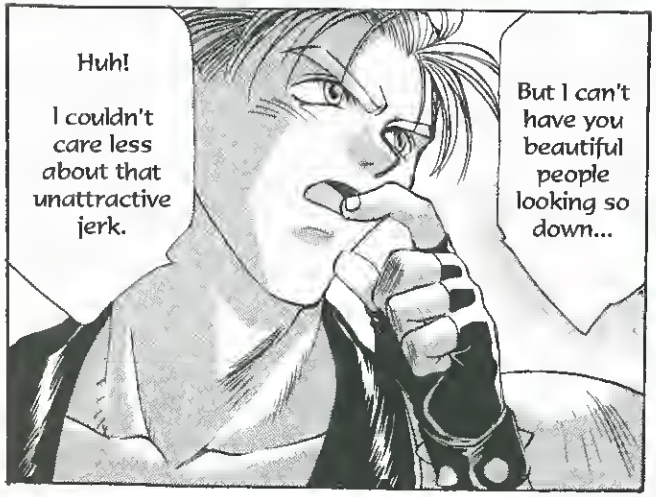
BROTHER!!
CARROT!
Darling
...

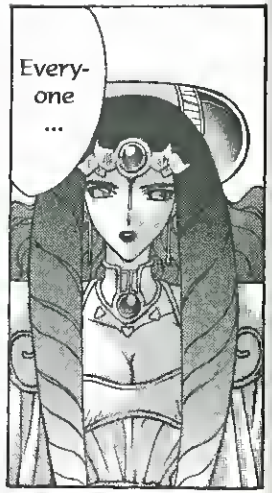


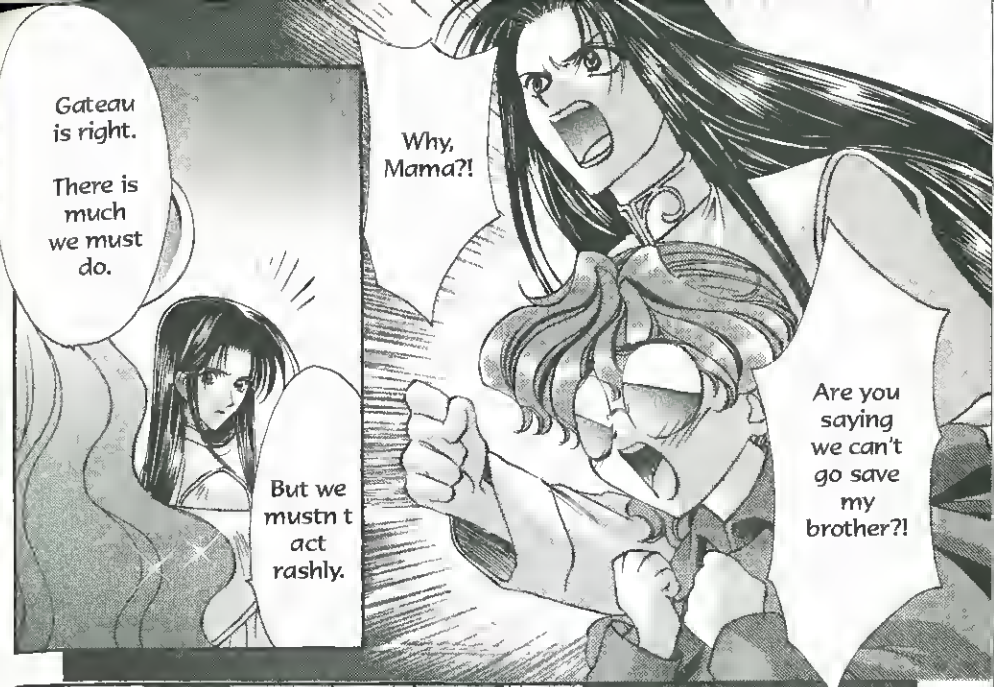

Imperial City, Fa ade. Stella Church, Southern Division
This Southern Division is an emergency headquarters.
It's encased in several layers of protective shields.
Even the Lords of Darkness will have a hard time getting in.
Bro-ther ...
Car-rot ...
Dar-ling ...

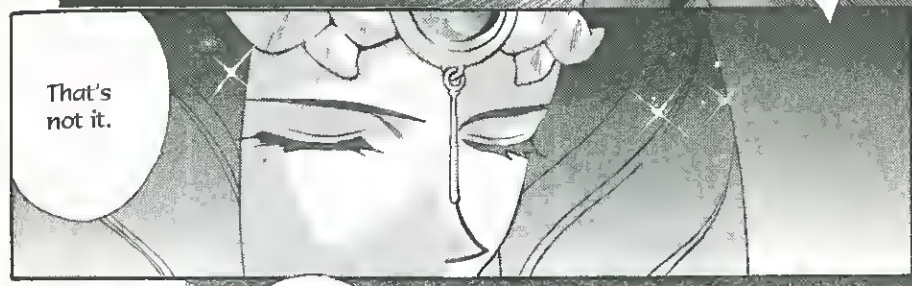

Cut it out you guys!
You don't have time to be depressed!
Do you think moping around is gonna bring Carrot back?!
Gat-eau ...
We've got a lot to do!
We have to find out where they're holding Carrot!
If you think you have time to mope, then get over it!

You're right ...
We have to save Carrot ...
Thank you, Gateau.

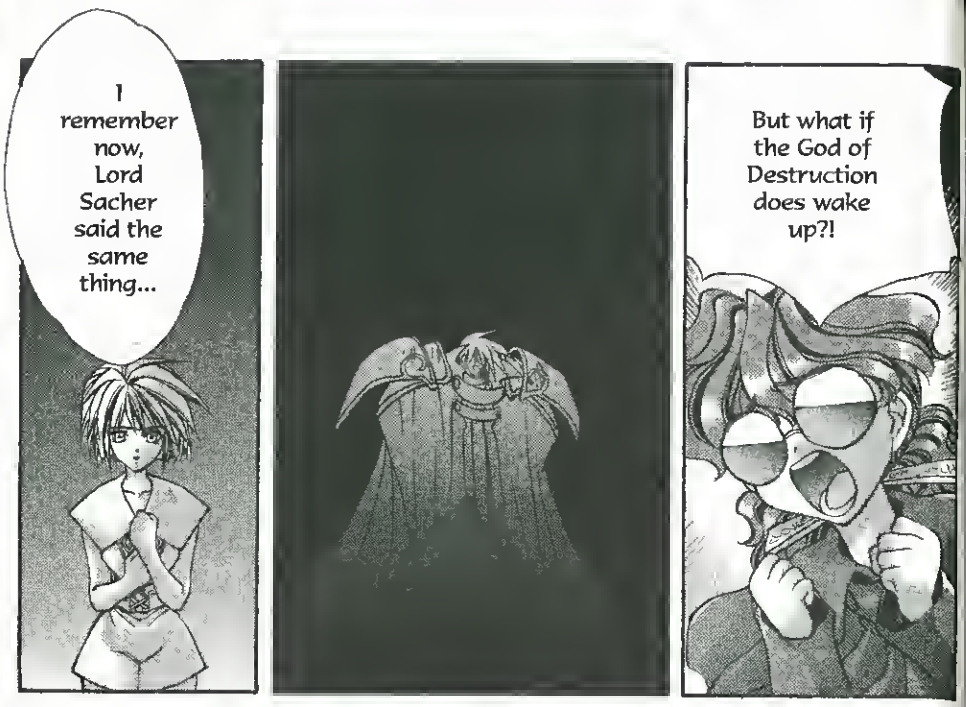

Huh!
I couldn't care less about that unattractive jerk.
But I can't have you beautiful people looking so down...

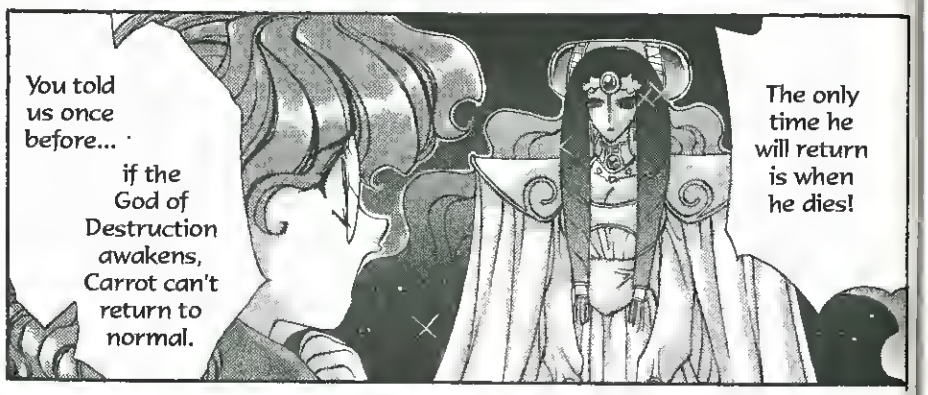

Every-one ...


Gateau is right.
There is much we must do.
But we mustn t act rashly.
Why, Mama?!
Are you saying we can't go save my brother?!


That's not it.

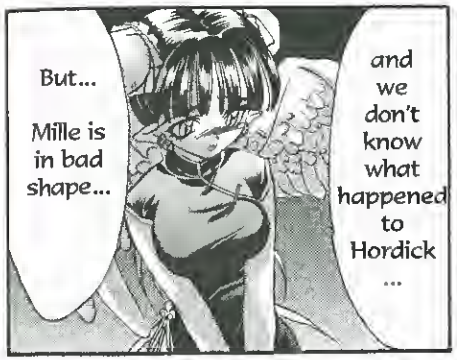
Then why ...?!
We know that Carrot must be alive.
After all, they want to revive the God of Destruction within him...
If Carrot dies, then they will be unable to do so.


I remember now, Lord Sacher said the same thing...
But what if the God of Destruction does wake up?!


You told us once before... if the God of Destruction awakens, Carrot can't return to normal.
The only time he will return is when he dies!

I know.
That's why we must move with caution.
Huh?

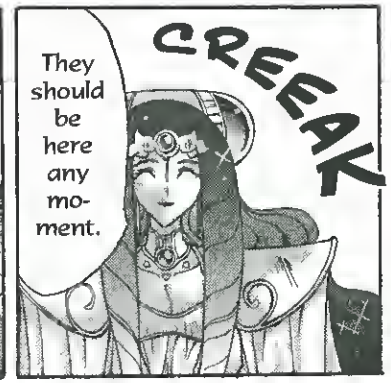
If we act blindly, we may fail to prevent the awakening of the God of Destruction.
Until now, we've only countered the enemy's
Now we must take the offensive.
We will have only one chance to finish everything.
We must be prepared!

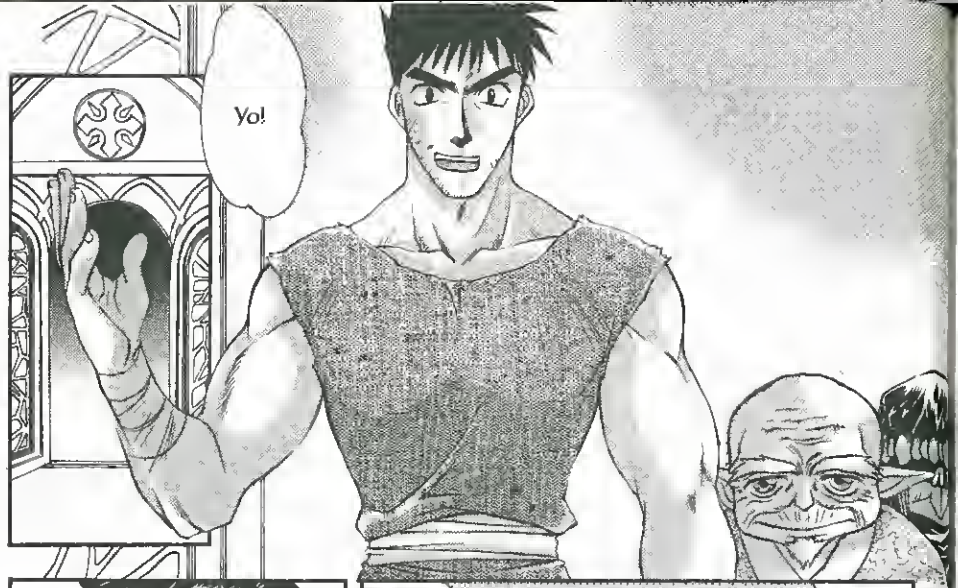

But... Mille is in bad shape...
and we don't know what happened to Hordick ...

Father ...

You don't need to worry about Hordick.

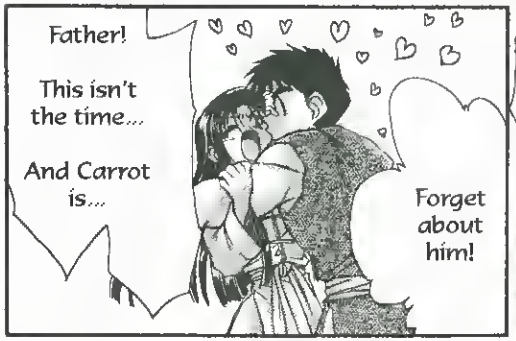
Huh?

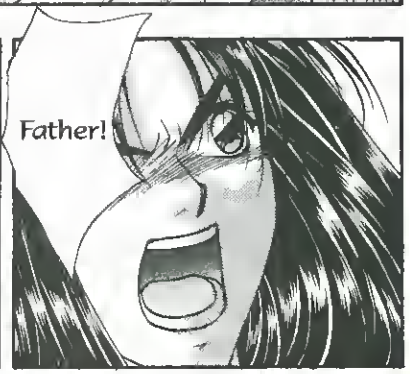

They should be here any moment.
CREEAK

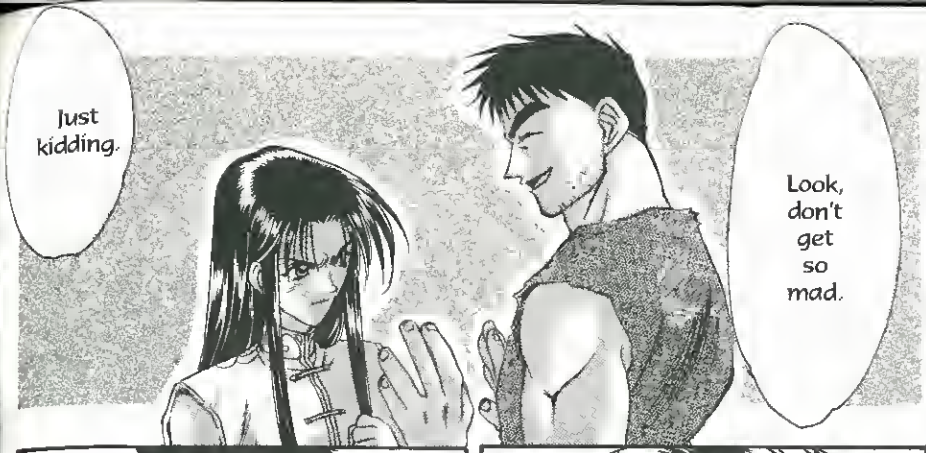

Yo!

Father!

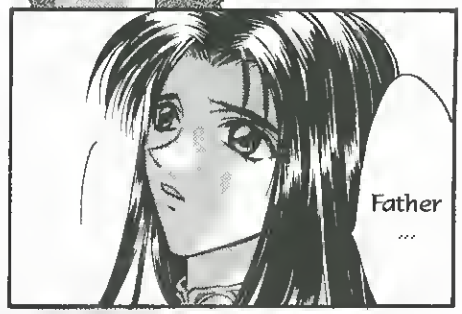
Ohh!
Marron
♡♡♡
I've missed you!

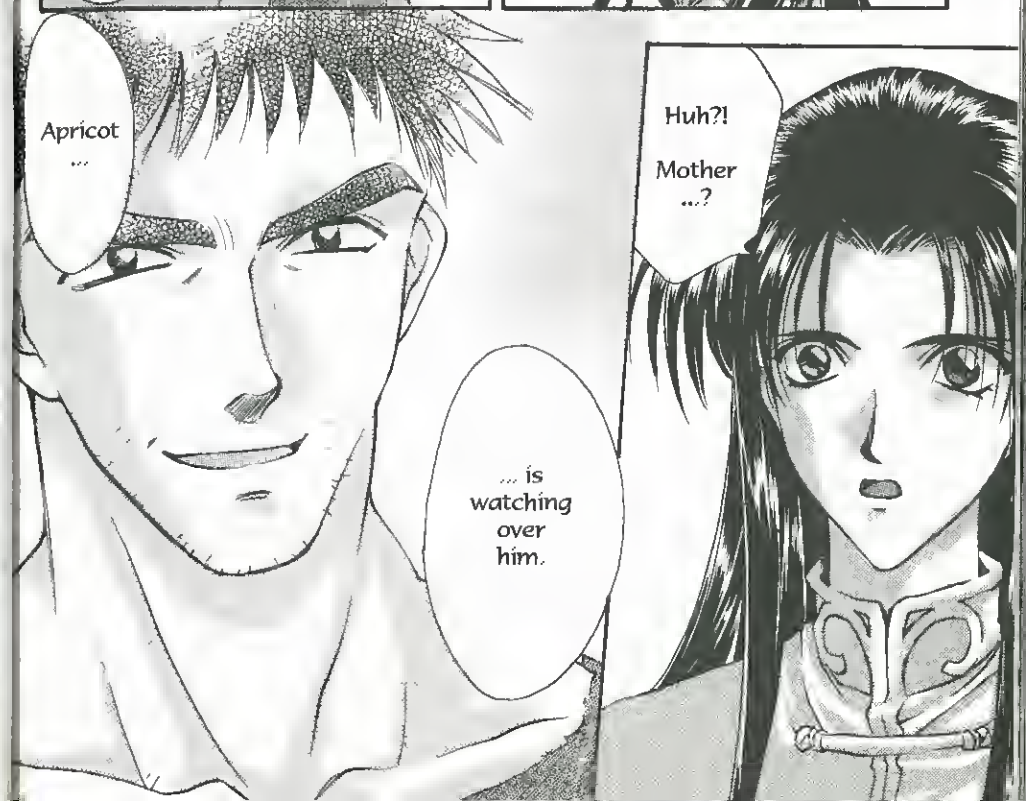

Father!
This isn't the time...
And Carrot is...
Forget about him!


Father!

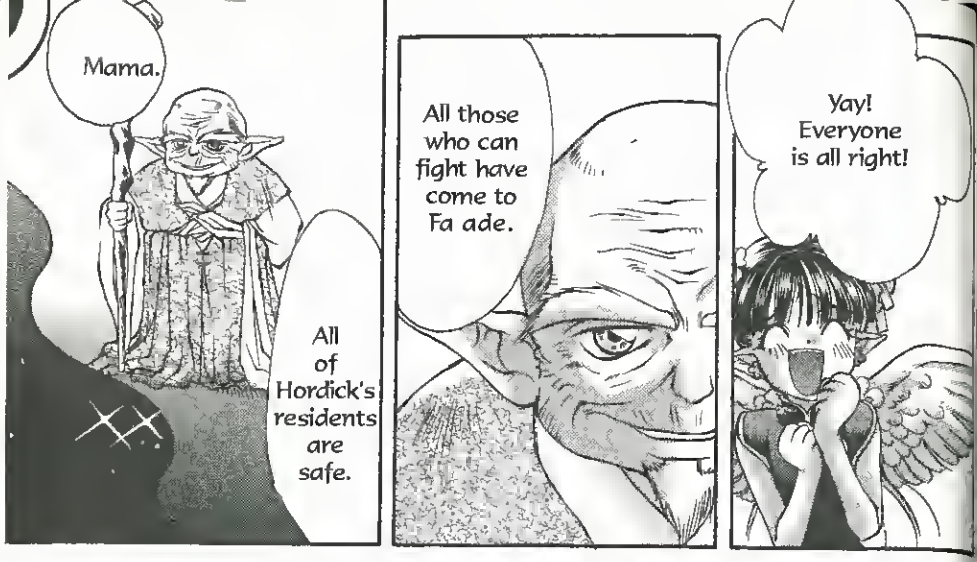

Just kidding.
Look, don't get so mad.

He won't be killed that easily.


Father ...

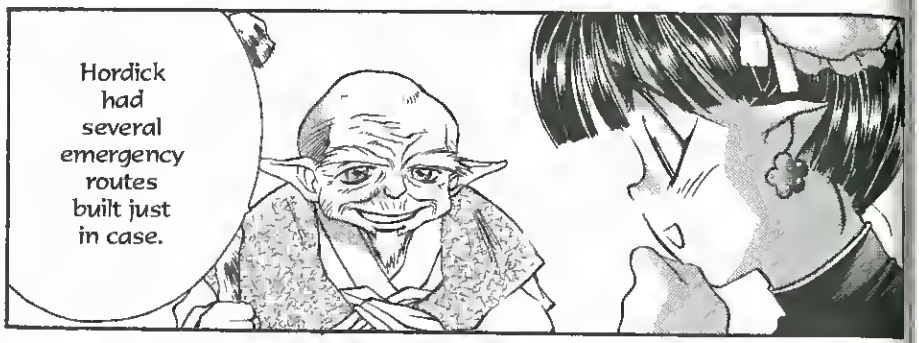

Apricot ...
... is watching over him.

Huh?!
Mother ...?


Mama.
All of Hordick's residents are safe.

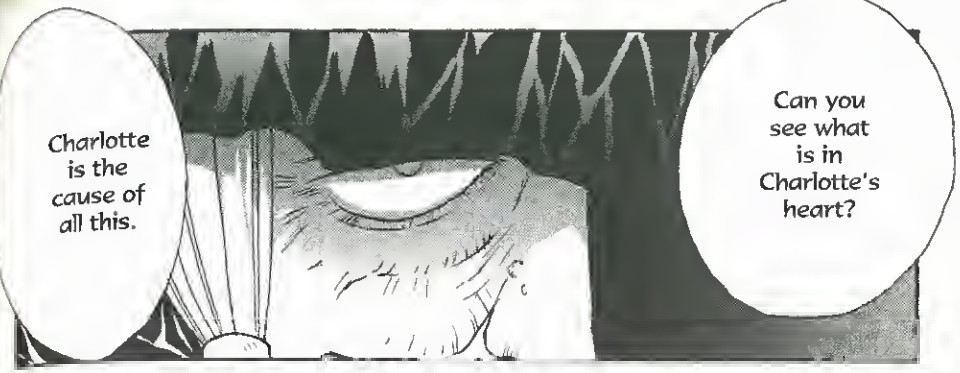
All those who can fight have come to Fa ade.

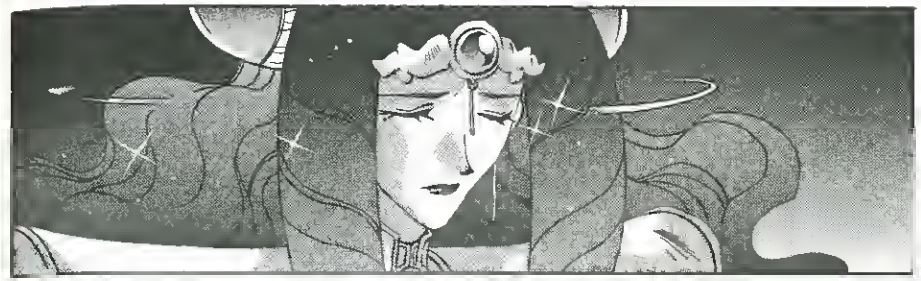
Yay! Everyone is all right!


Hordick had several emergency routes built just in case.

It's been a long time, Kanure Stella.

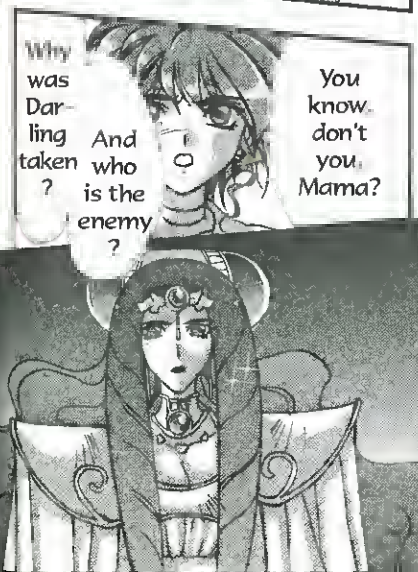
Gin Namba.

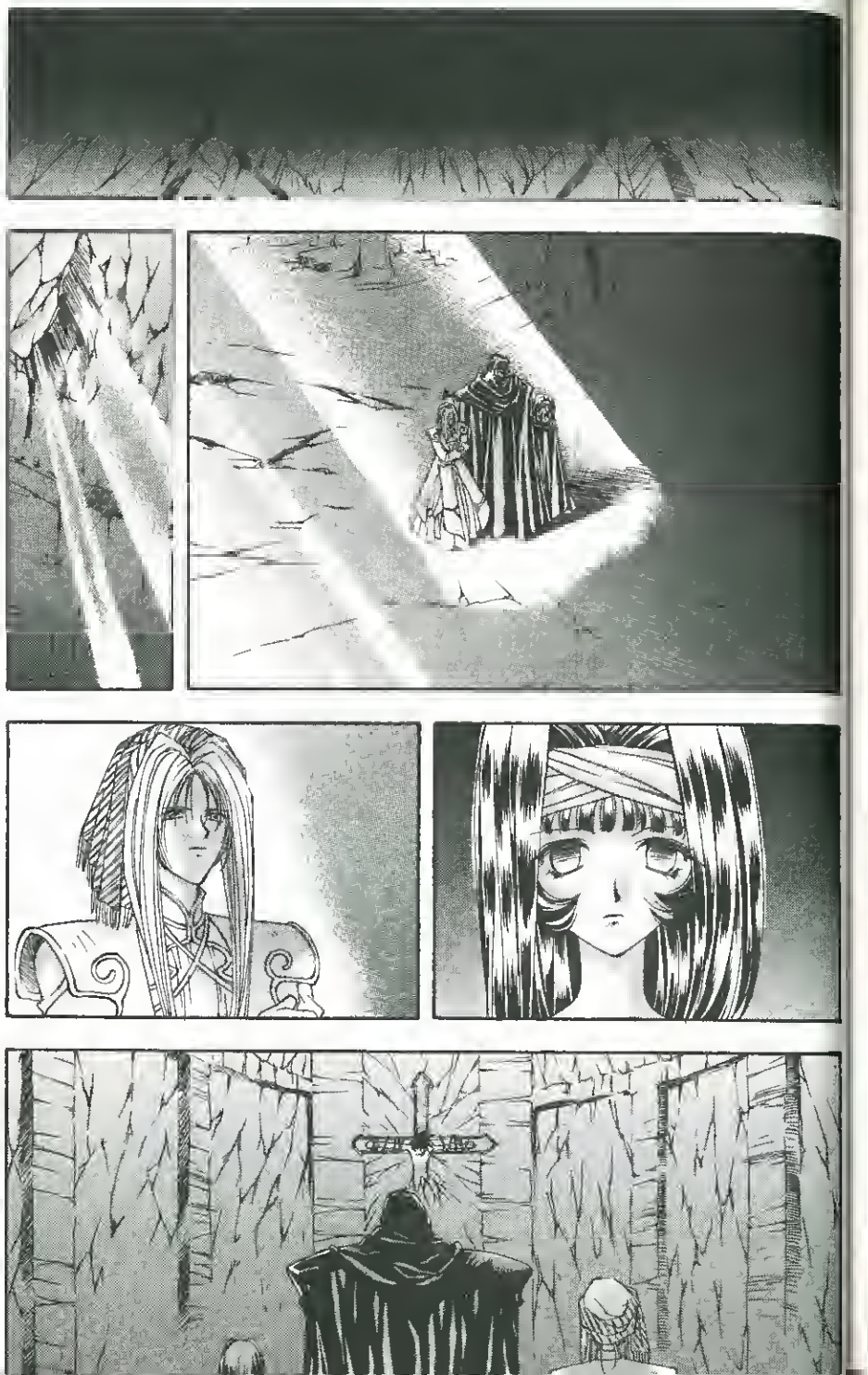

Charlotte is the cause of all this.
Can you see what is in Charlotte's heart?

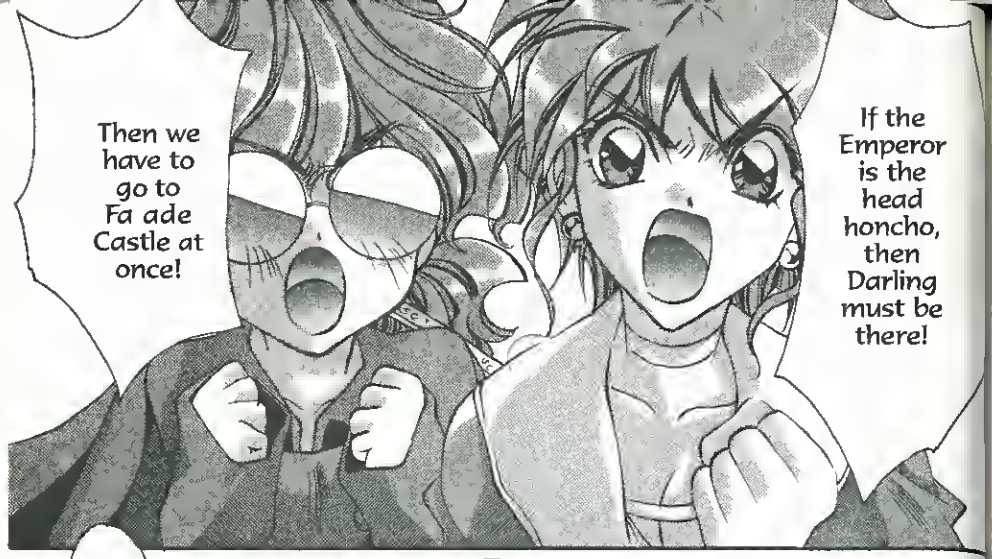


What are you talking about?

I will tell you everything ...
About the birth of this world...


Why was Darling taken?
And who is the enemy?
You know, don't you, Mama?

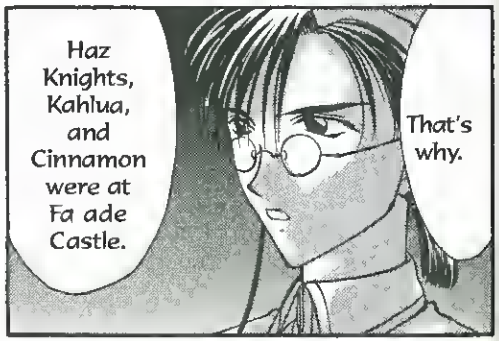


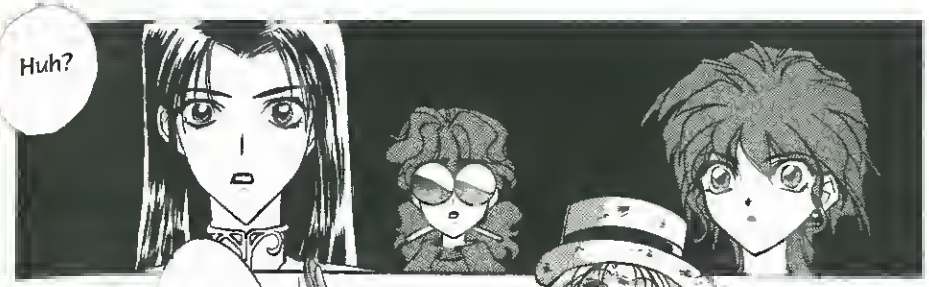

Then we have to go to Fa ade Castle at once!
If the Emperor is the head honcho, then Darling must be there!

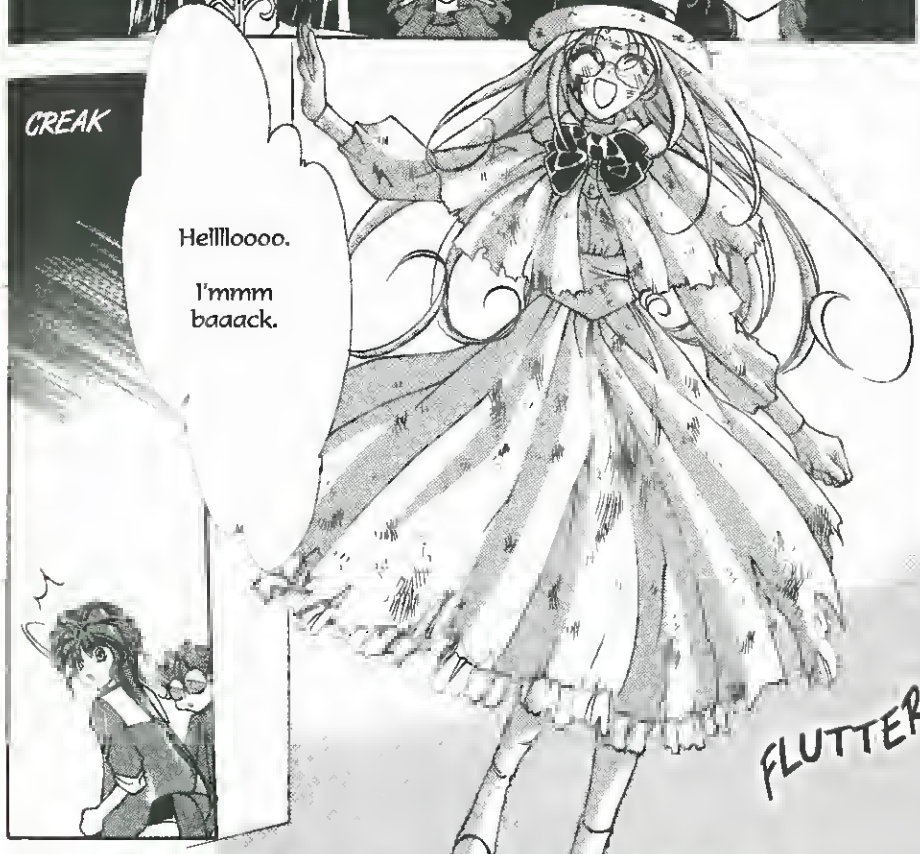
Wait.

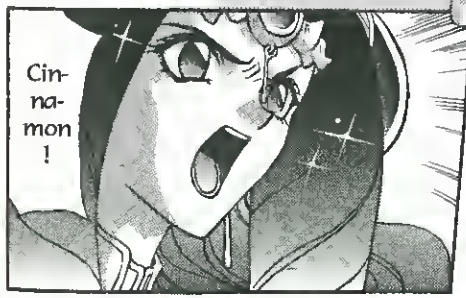
Carrot could not be at Fa ade Castle.

How can you be so sure?

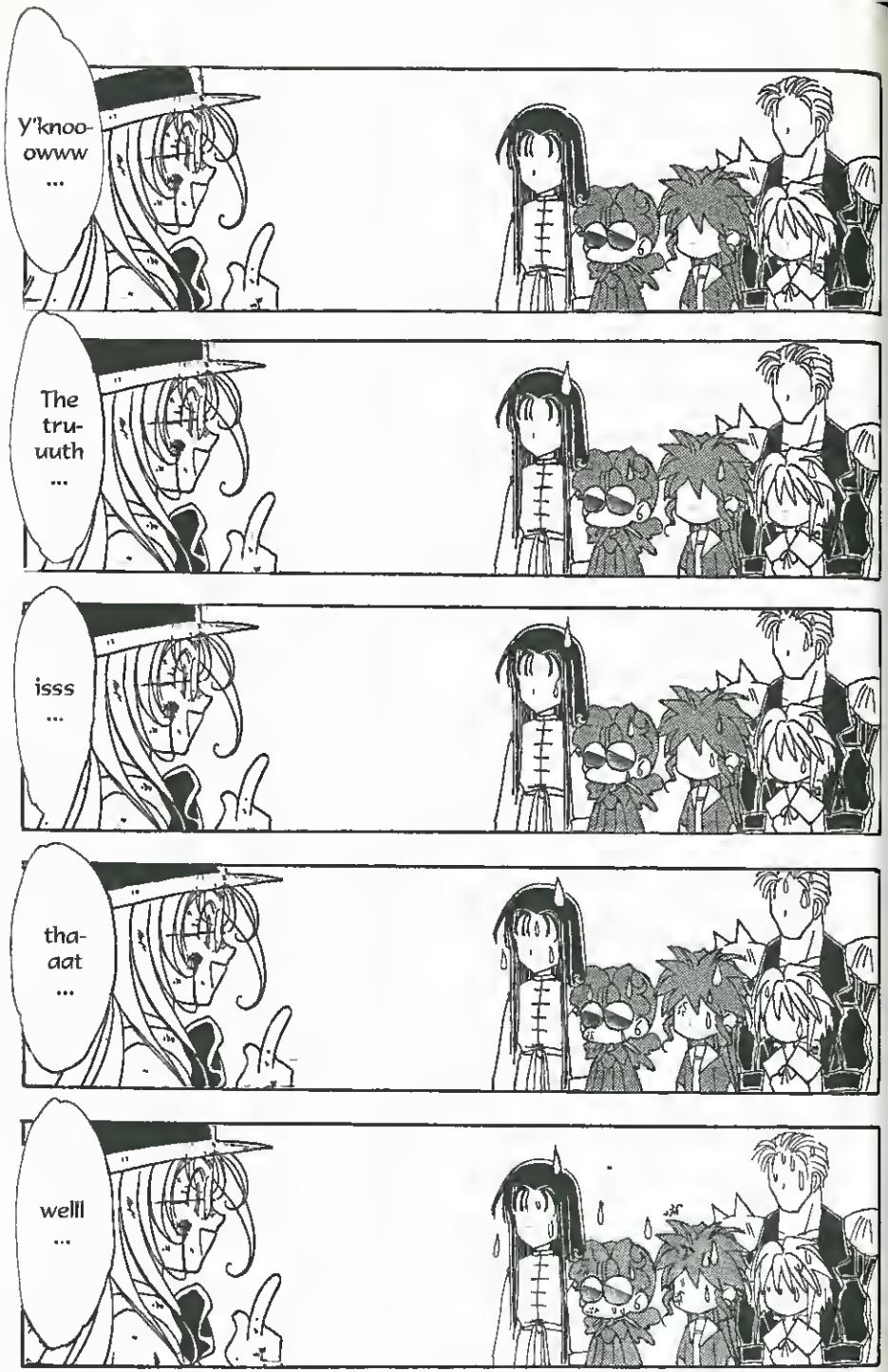

Haz Knights, Kahlua, and Cinnamon were at Fa ade Castle.
That's why.


Huh?


CREAK
Hellllooooo.
I'mmm baaaack.
FLUTTER

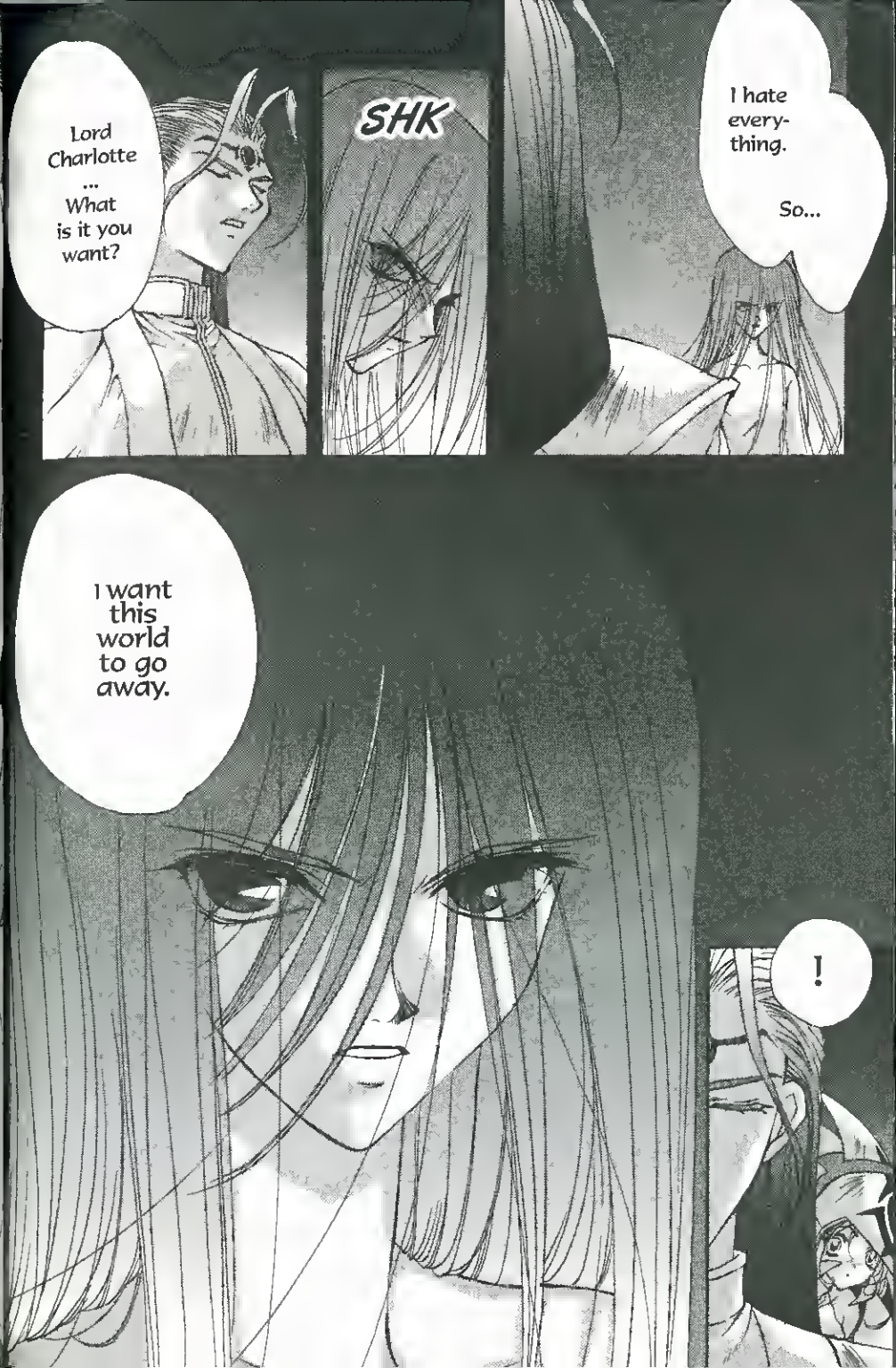

Cin-na-mon!

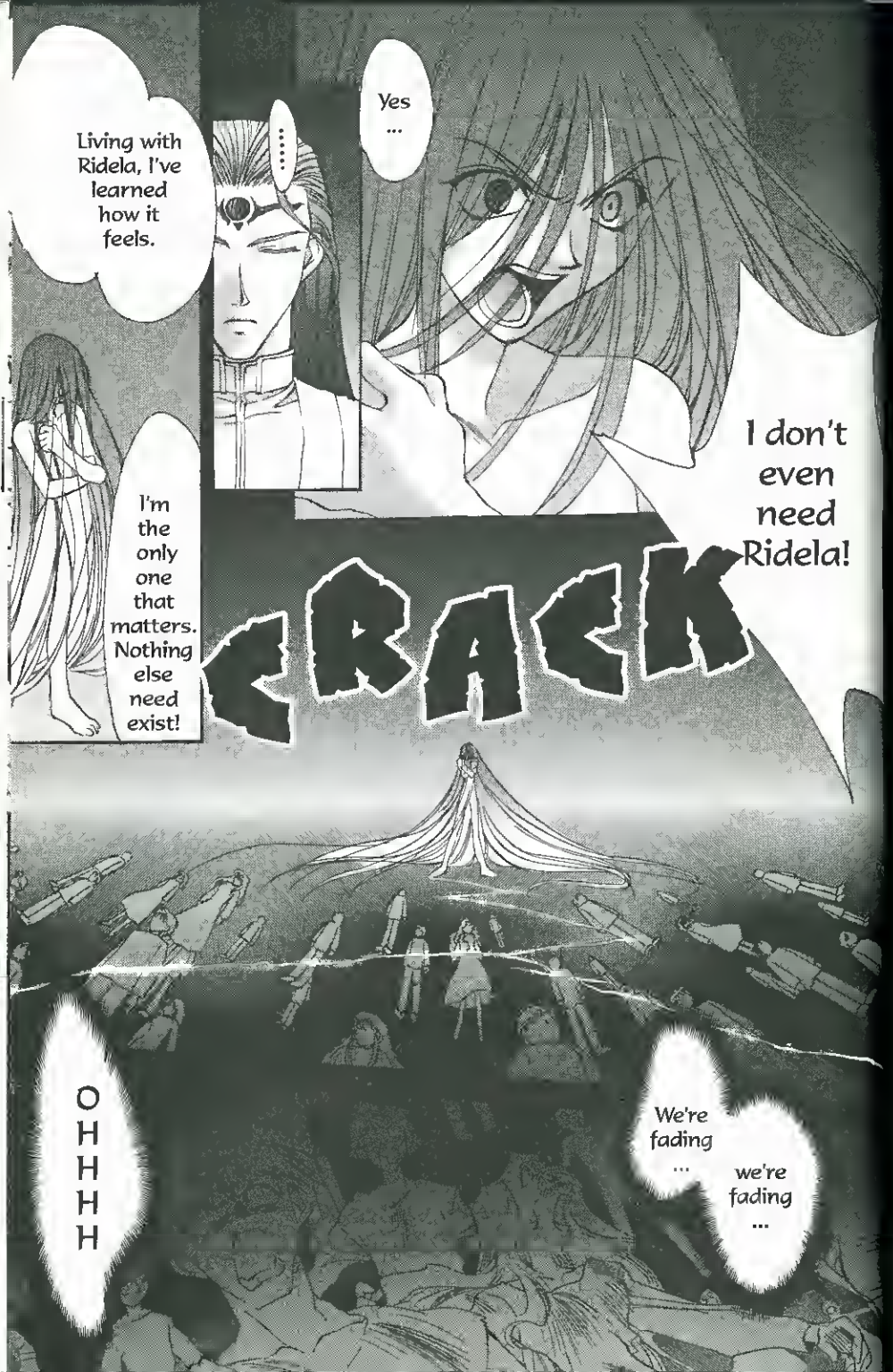
What happened?!


y'knoo-owww ...
The tru-uuth ...
isss ...
tha-aat ...
welll ...

I...
jusst ...
cam-mmee ...
Spit it out already!!

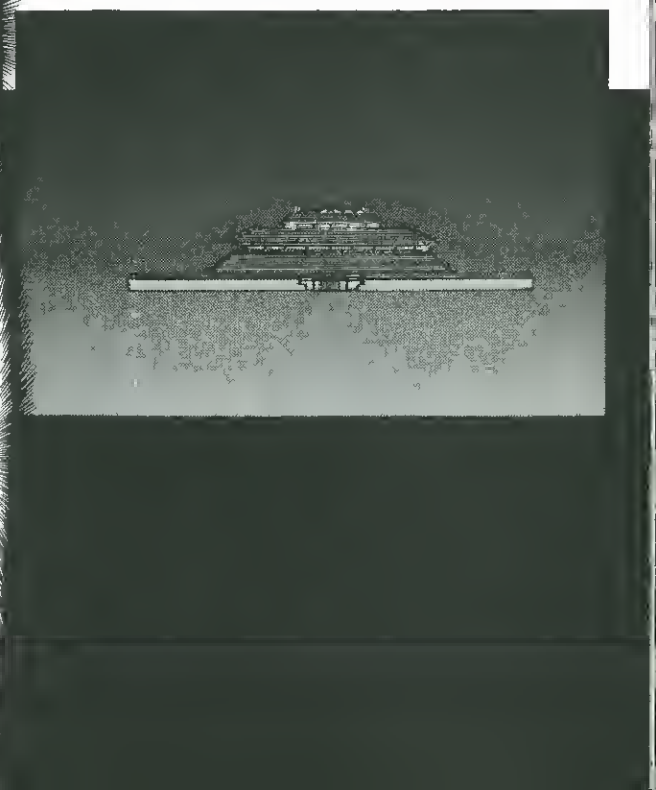
Whaat I'm tryinng to saayyy. ..
I hate it!
I hate it!
I hate every. one!!
RROARRR
SHK
SHI
CLINK
ohhh myyy ...
Take thaaat!
SHK

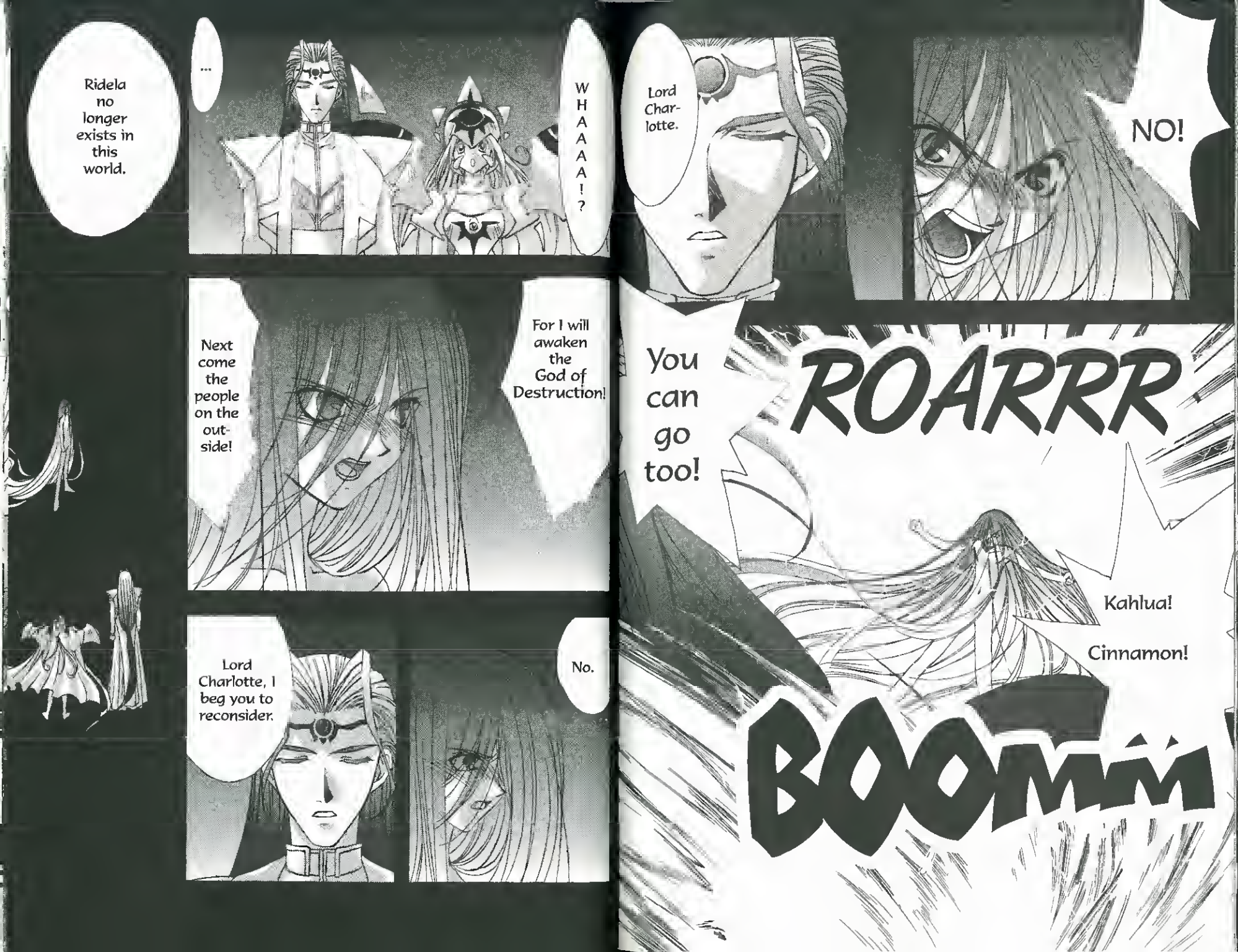

Lord Charlotte ... What is it you want?
SHK
I hate every- thing.
So...
I want this world to go away.
!


Living with Ridela, I've learned how it feels.
.....
Yes ...
I'm the only one that matters. Nothing else need exist!
I don't even need Ridela!
CRACK
OHHHH
We're fading ...
we're fading ...

We're dis-olv-ing ...
We're dying ...
AHHHHHH

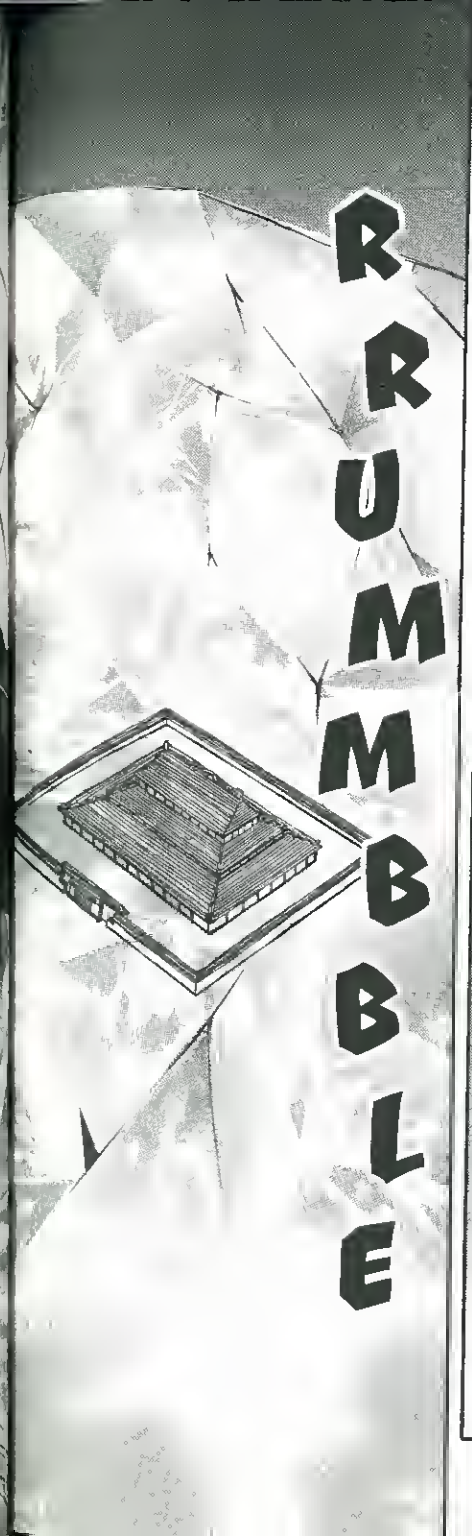
SHINNGG




Ridela no longer exists in this world.
...
WHAAAA!?
Next come the people on the out-side!
For I will awaken the God of Destruction!
Lord Charlotte, I beg you to reconsider.
No.
Lord Char-lotte.
NO!
You can go too!
ROARRR
Kahlua!
Cinnamon!
BOOMM

!
VNNN
Lord Charlotte, I ask you to wait.
NO!
!
Although it is against my principles, I must insist.
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

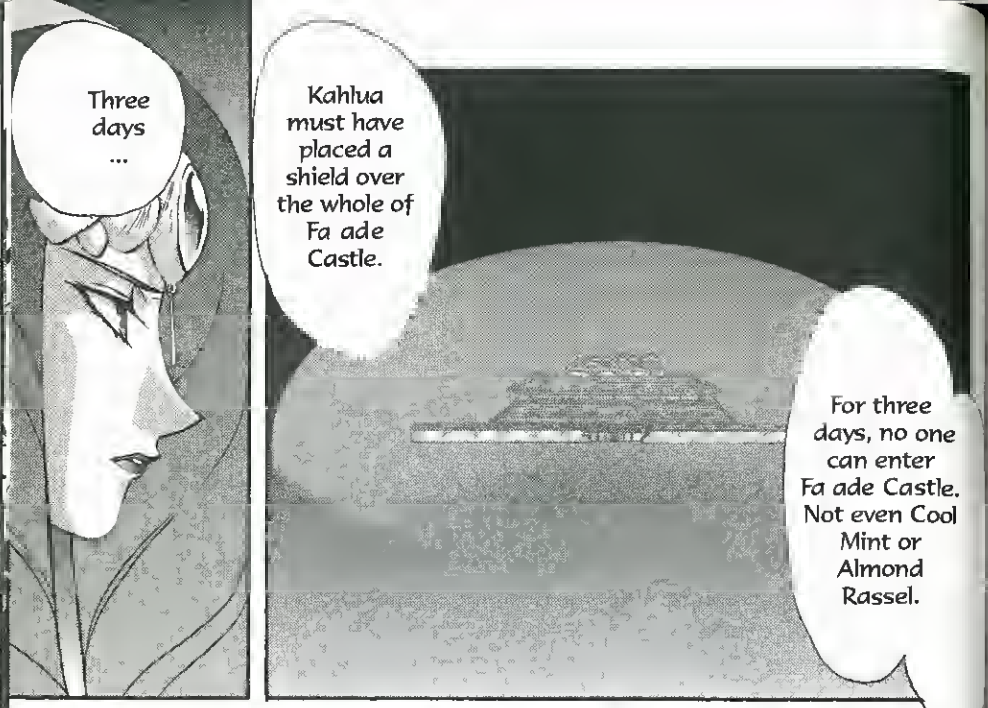
Cinna-mon.
Tell Mama...
... I will only be able to contain Lord Charlotte for three days.
yESSSS?
yEESSS...
WSH
RRUMMBBLLE


RRUMMBBLE

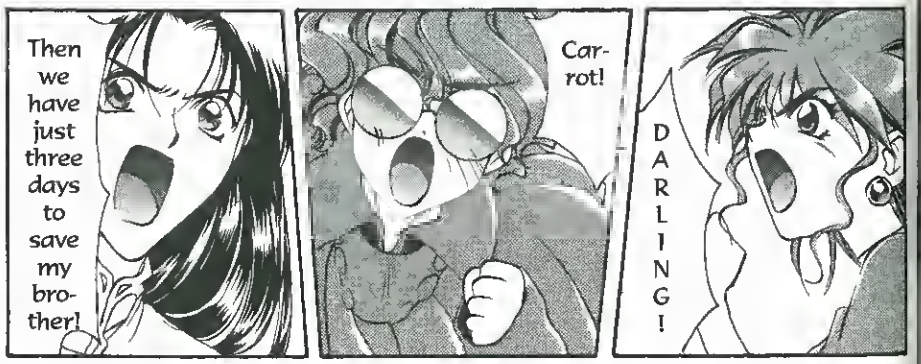
Sooo...
I came to telll youuu...

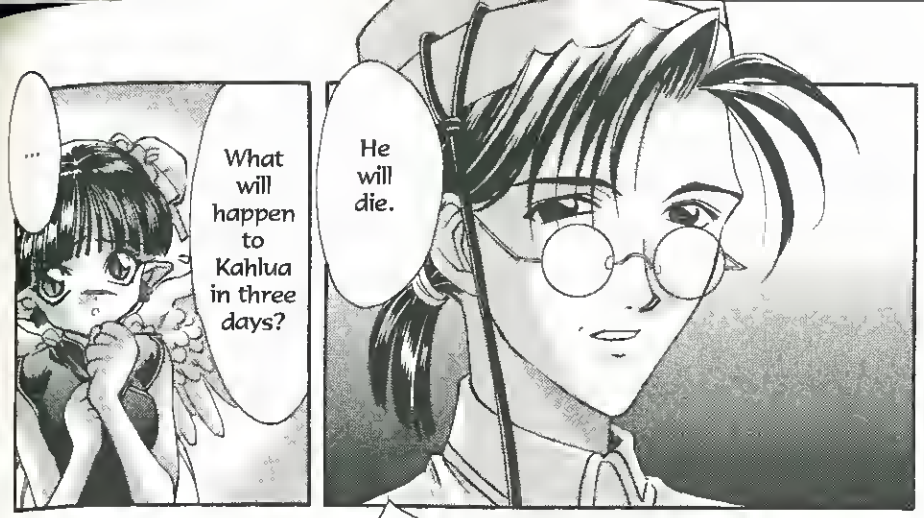
But how were you hurt, Cinna-mon?

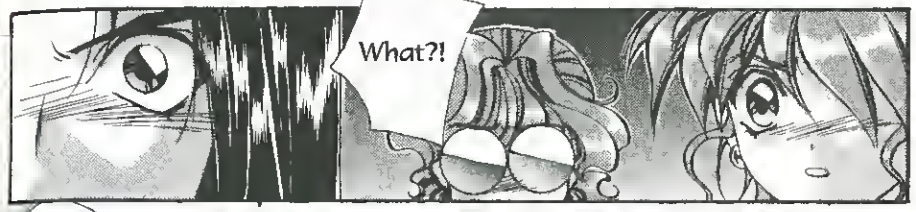
Ohhh ... thissss?
I juusst triippped and feellll...


Three days ...
Kahlua must have placed a shield over the whole of Fa ade Castle.
For three days, no one can enter Fa ade Castle. Not even Cool Mint or Almond Rassel.

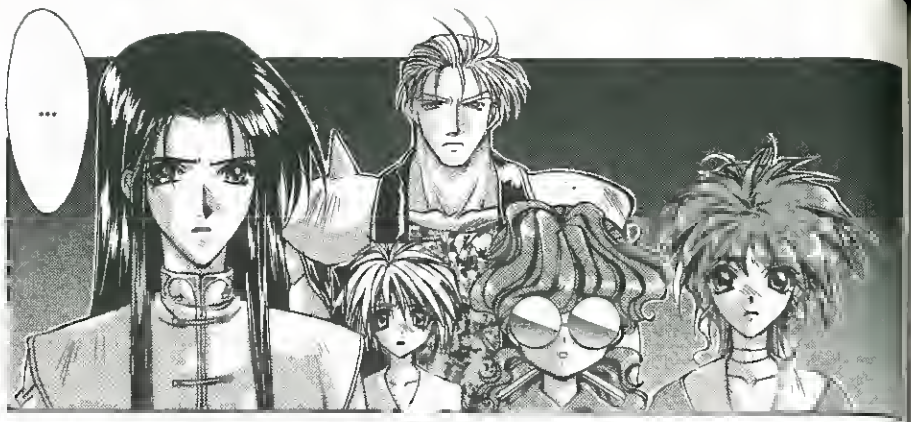
If Charlotte were to find Carrot, the God of Destruction would surely be revived...


Then we have just three days to save my brother!
Carrot!
DARLING!

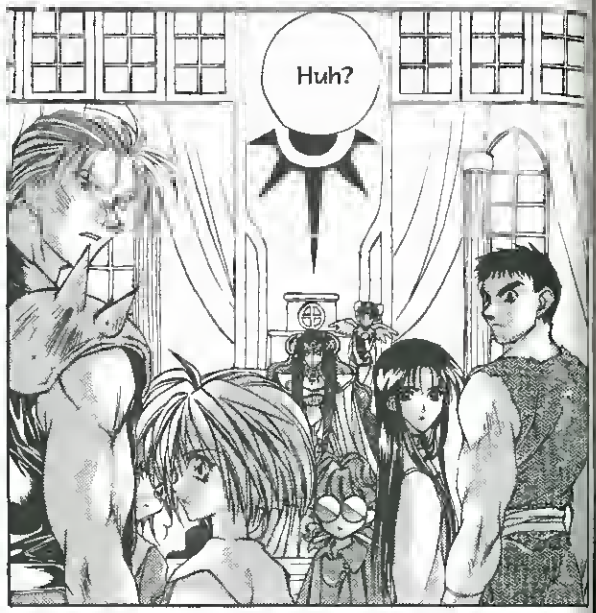

...
What will happen to Kahlua in three days?
He will die.

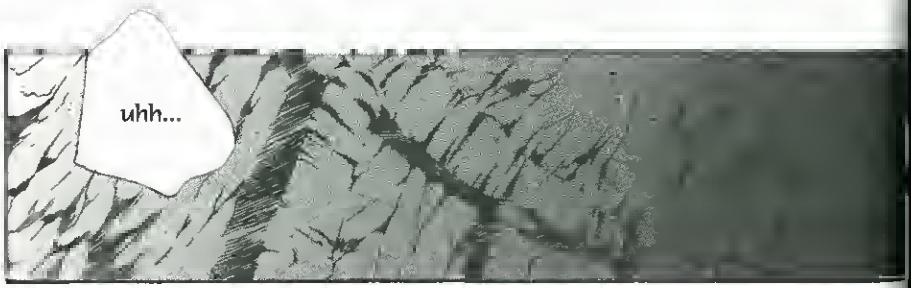

What?!

Yes. We Haz Knights have stayed by Mama's side for just such an event.


...

I have an idea where Carrot might be...


Huh?

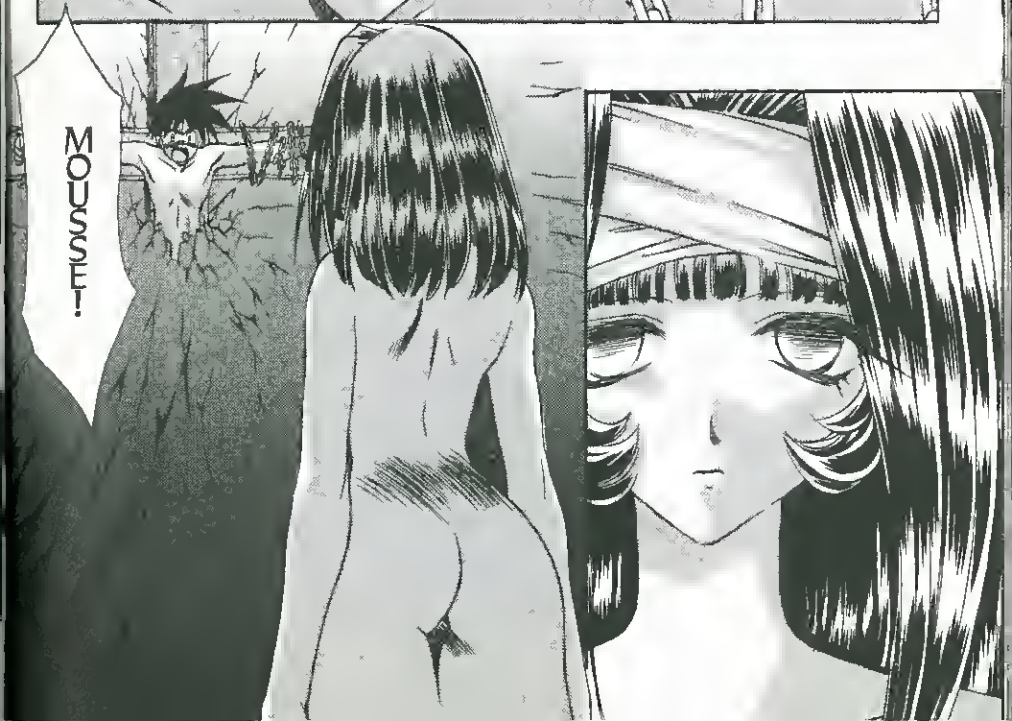

uhh...

Where ...?

GASP

What the...?!
KACHANK

!


MOUSE!

Mousse!

Mousse!

Mousse!

#63 Apricot's Protection

Calling to her is useless.
Who are you?!
Huh?!

I told you who I am.
I am one of the Four Lords of Darkness, Almond Rassel.

I am Cool Mint.

Who the heck are the Lords of Darkness?!

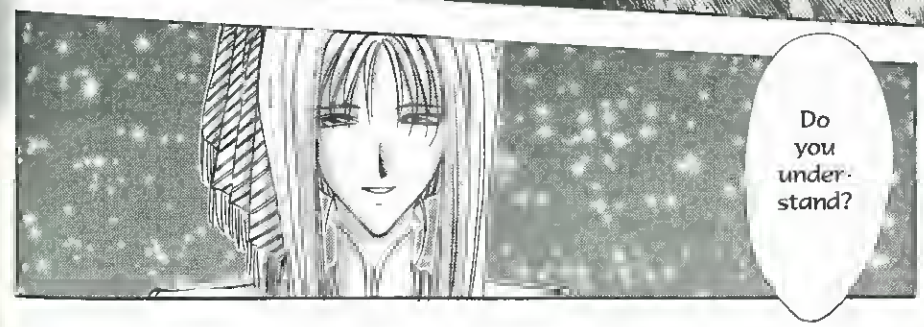
When the world was still in chaos, four appeared to rule the demon element.
Those four were the Lords of Darkness.

When the world was in chaos?

When humans did not yet exist...
Beings of a higher consciousness inhabited the world.
They pushed the limits of their mental abilities...
then at the pinnacle of their achievements, they disappeared.

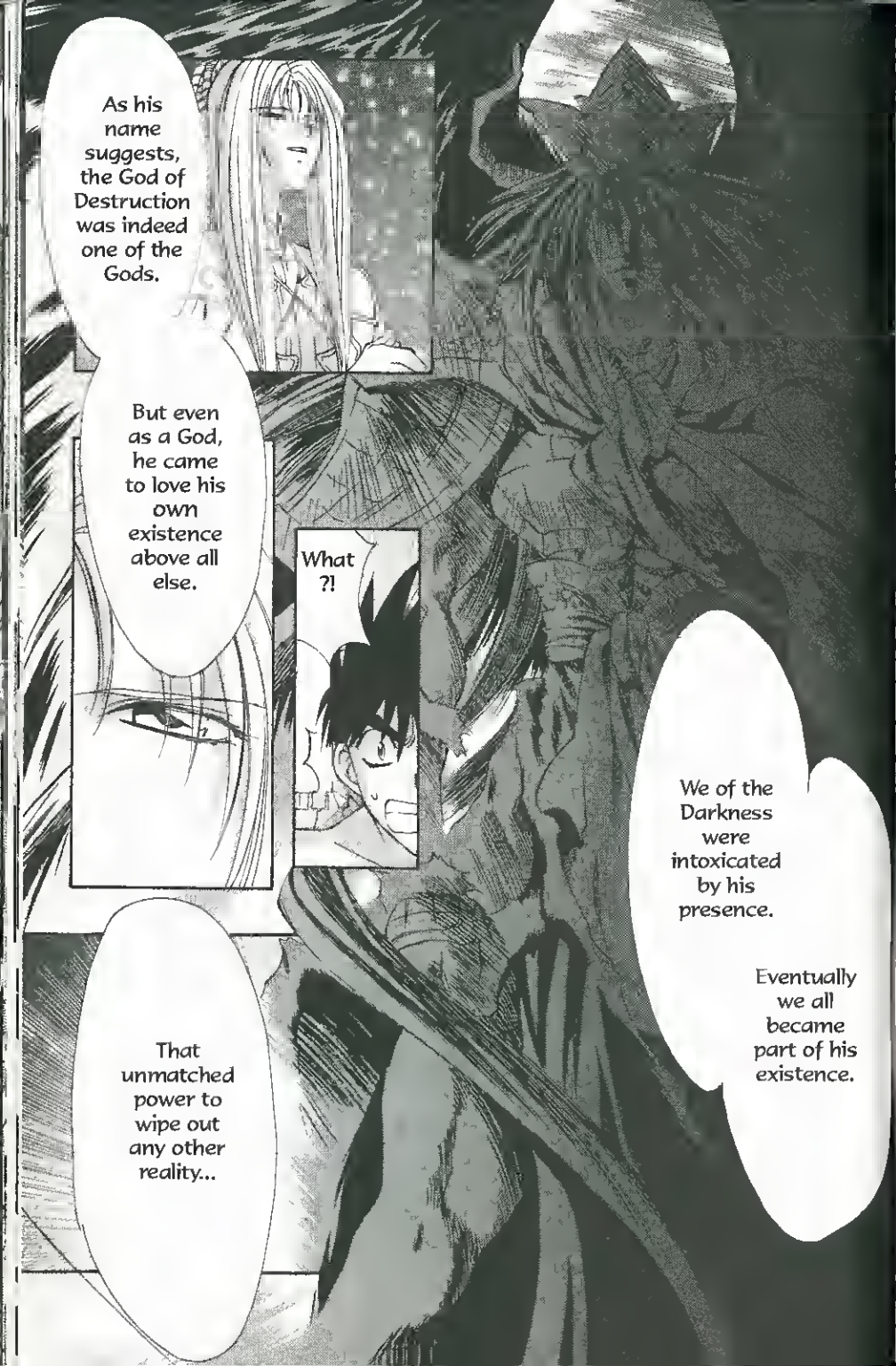
Huh? Disappeared ...?
How should I know?!
Carrot Glac , do you know what the thoughts of those who reached the height of their mental abilities were?
Huh ?
The thoughts of those higher beings ...
was "existence" itself
They thought about the existence of themselves ...
They thought about the existence of others...
And then they consid-ered it.

In the end, they divided into two warring factions. Those who accepted the existence of others and those who rejected it.
Those who accepted the existence of others were called "Gods."
Those who rejected it were called "Demons."
It was we four who became the leaders of the Demons.


Do you under-stand?

Neither side accepts the other.
Each of us strives to become the sole existence of this world.
For the feast of blood that would follow.
Towards this end, the Four Lords of Darkness joined forces to destroy the world first.
But the power of the Gods was great. We were repelled and almost obliterated.
That was when it happened ...

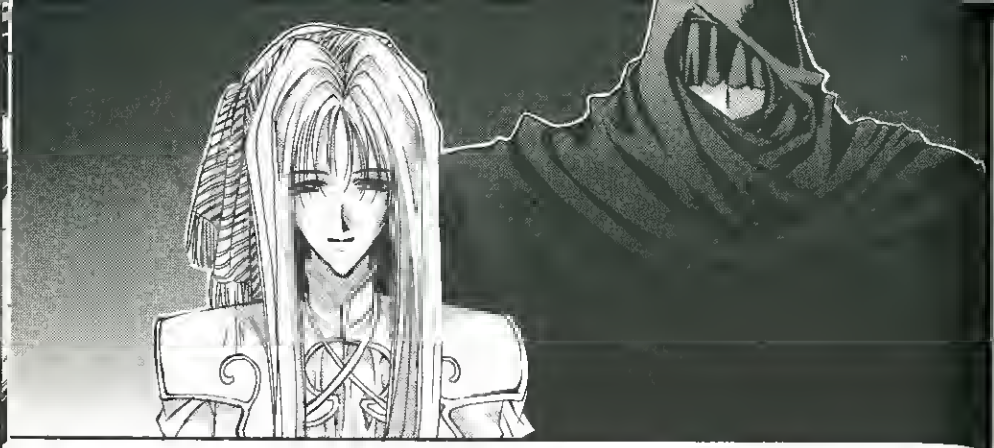
W-what ...?!
You're sick!
Don't look at me like that!
heh heh... Just at the brink of annihilation, we were saved by the God of Destruction that lives within you.
Erk?!

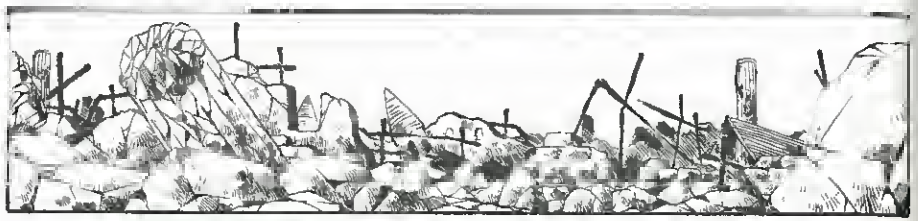

As his name suggests, the God of Destruction was indeed one of the Gods.
But even as a God, he came to love his own existence above all else.
What ?!
We of the Darkness were intoxicated by his presence.
Eventually we all became part of his existence.
That unmatched power to wipe out any other reality...

Huh?!
If the God of Destruction is revived, our entities will fuse with his and disappear.
We long to become one with the great God of Destruction ...
What are you guys talking about?!
heh heh heh ...
But the humans had the same idea as us.
...!?

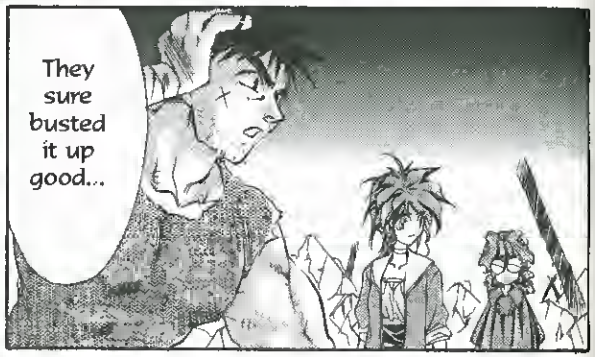
Ridela...
it is a man-made god of destruction ...
So we followed it.
What's a Ridela?!
It is a city...
a city where millions of people exist as a single organism.
But now Ridela has been absorbed by Lord Charlotte.
Char-lotte ...?
The Emp-eror of Fam-ille.
And Big Mama, Kanure Stella's younger brother.

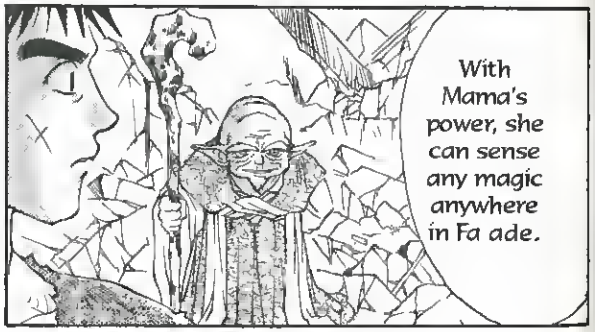
Huh?!
It doesn't matter to us.
As long as one of you becomes the sole entity of the God of Destruction...
Whether the God of Destruction within you wins...
or whether Lord Charlotte wins in the end...
We will happily dissolve into that existence.
You re all out of your minds!



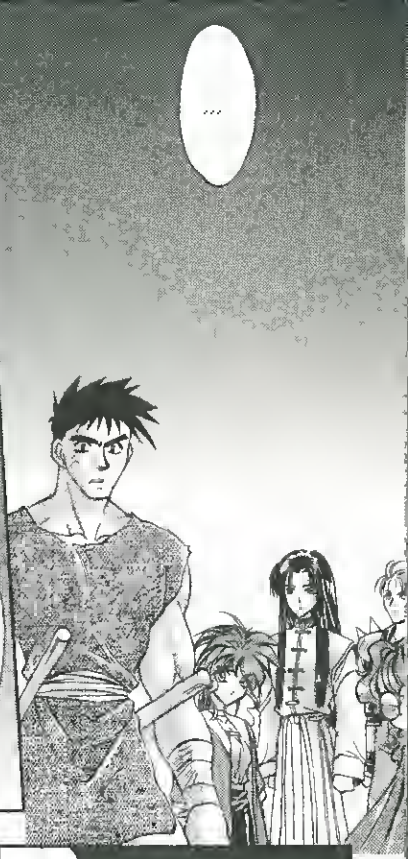


This is the Main Branch of the Stella Church?!
What are we doing here?


They sure busted it up good...


With Mama's power, she can sense any magic anywhere in Fa ade.

The only place that would escape her notice is Fa ade Castle, but Kahlua has placed a seal on that.
Therefore, Cool Mint and Almond Rassel must be in a place where they can cloak their magic from the outside world.


...

And...
Here at the Main Branch of the Stella Church, there is an entrance to the

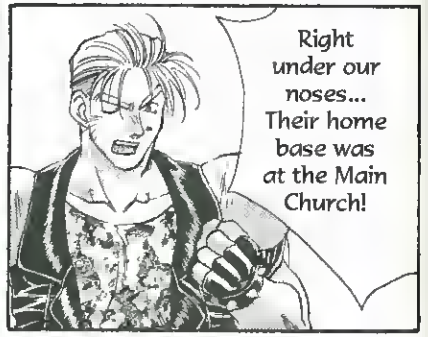
The Old City?

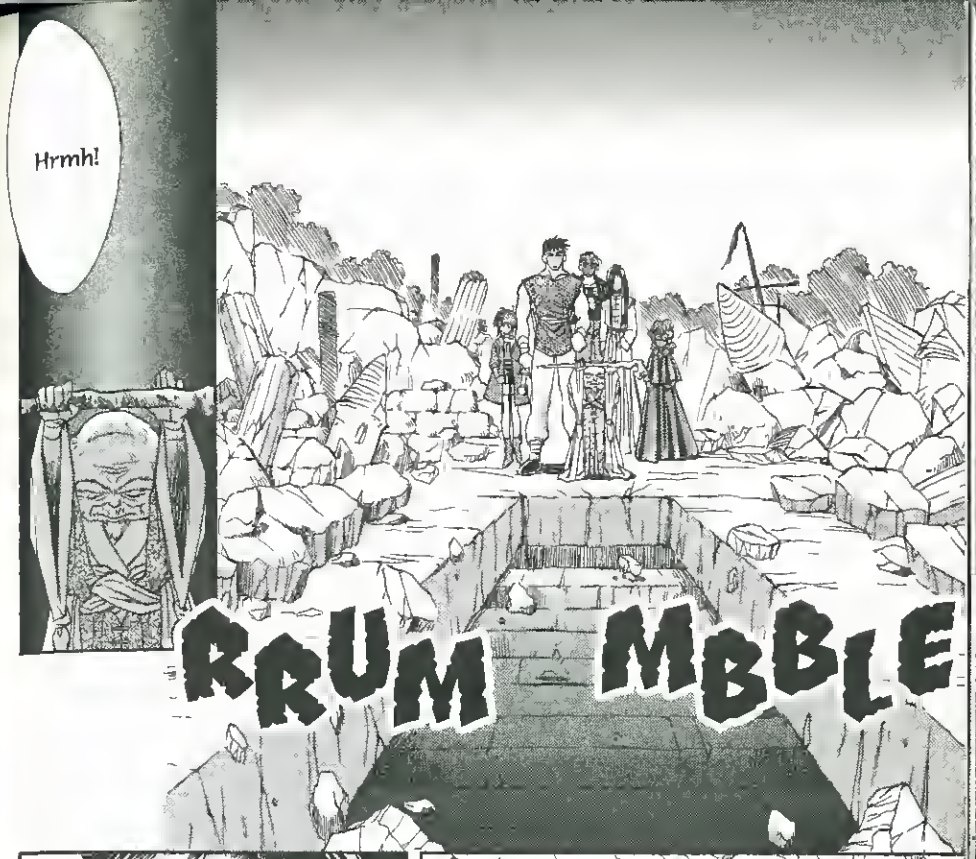
The name refers to a time when this was Ridela.
The Imperial City of Fa ade was built atop the remains of Ridela.

Ridela ...

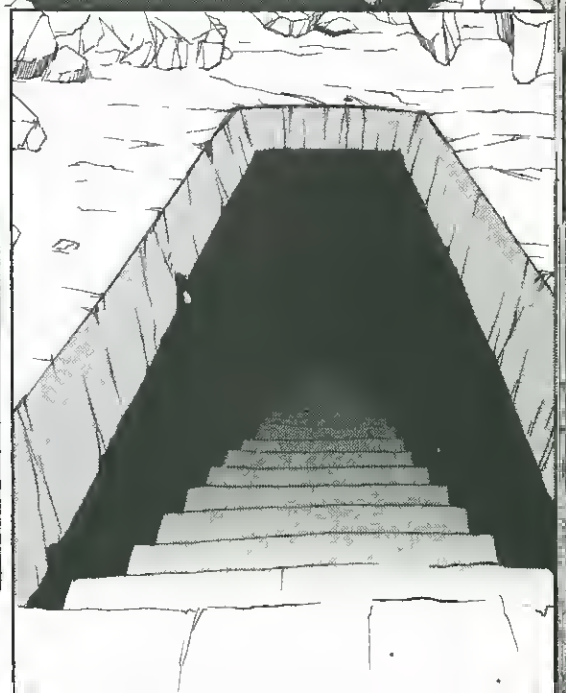
When Ridela merged to become a single lifeform, all of the inhabit-ants went into hiber-nation.
This city became a haven for Demons ... and the Lords of Darkness lived there.
T-then! They must be there now!
And Darling, too!

It is a possibility. This is the only place in Fa ade where they can cloak their magic.

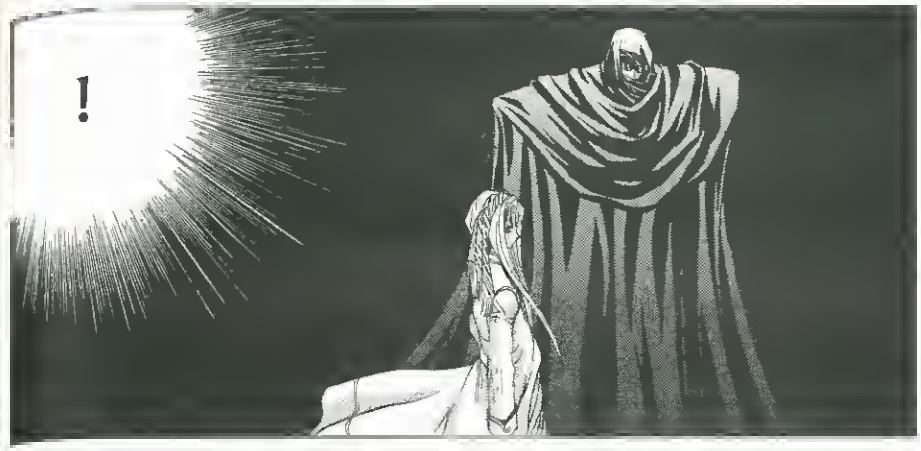

Right under our noses... Their home base was at the Main Church!


Hrmh!
RRUM MBBLE

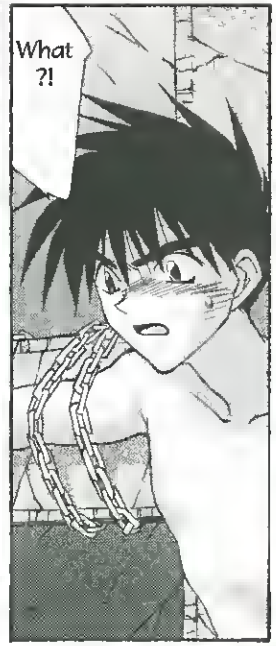
My bro-ther ...!
... is in there?



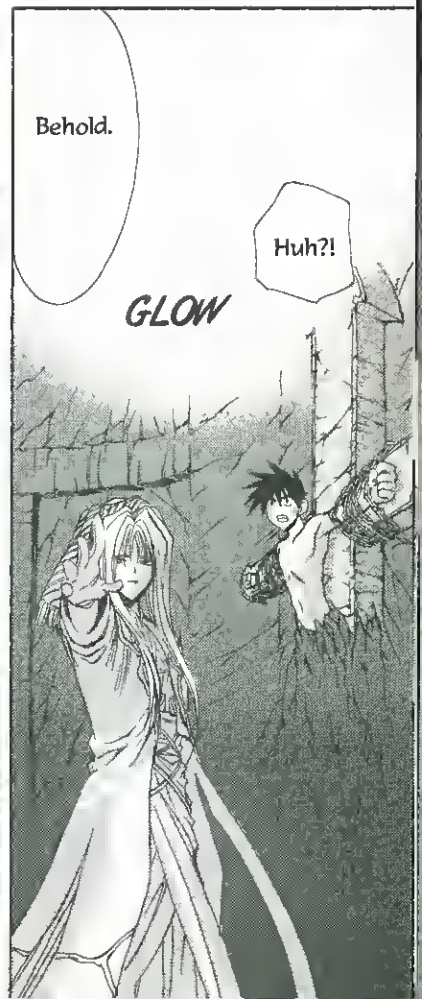
Let's do this!
Grand Pa, please wait here.
No, I too will go.
Huh?!
It might be interesting to speak with my former compatriots.

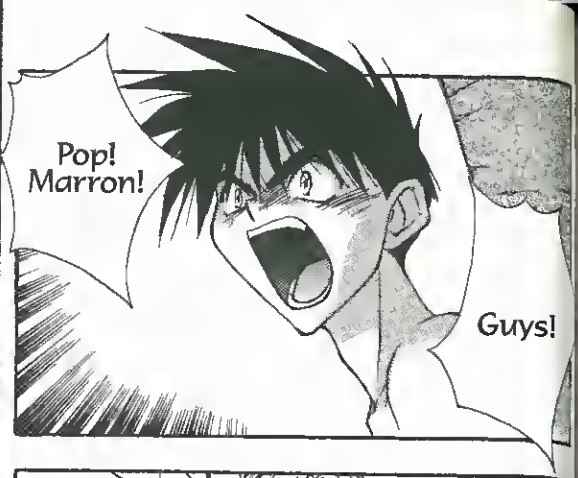

!

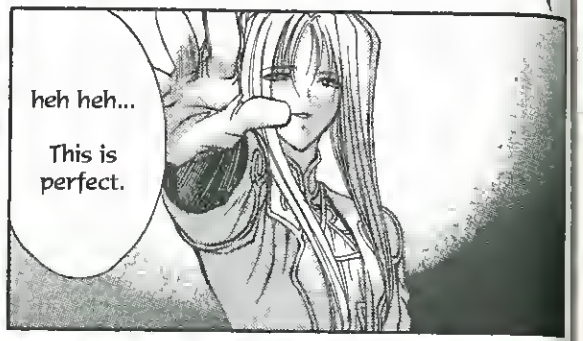
So... they've figured it out.
Heh heh.. They have Cashew Price in their ranks, after all.

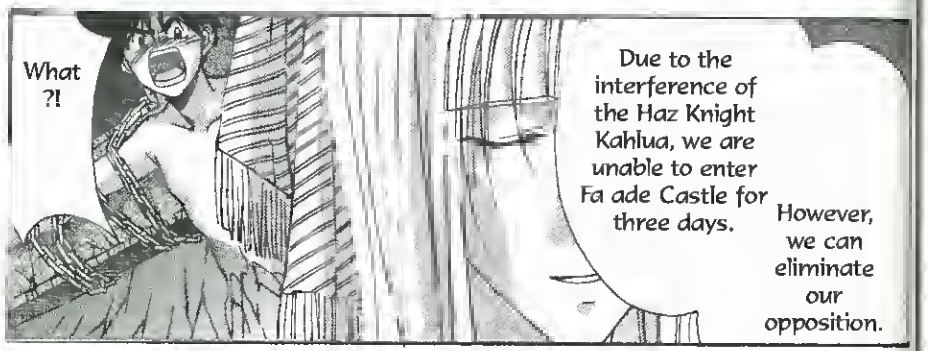

What ?!

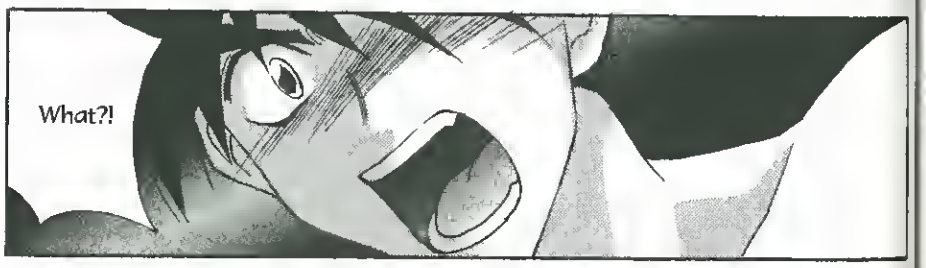
It seems your friends have arrived.


Behold.
Huh?!
GLOW


Pop!
Marron!
Guys!


heh heh...
This is perfect.


What ?!
Due to the interference of the Haz Knight Kahlua, we are unable to enter Fa ade Castle for three days.
However, we can eliminate our opposition.


What?!

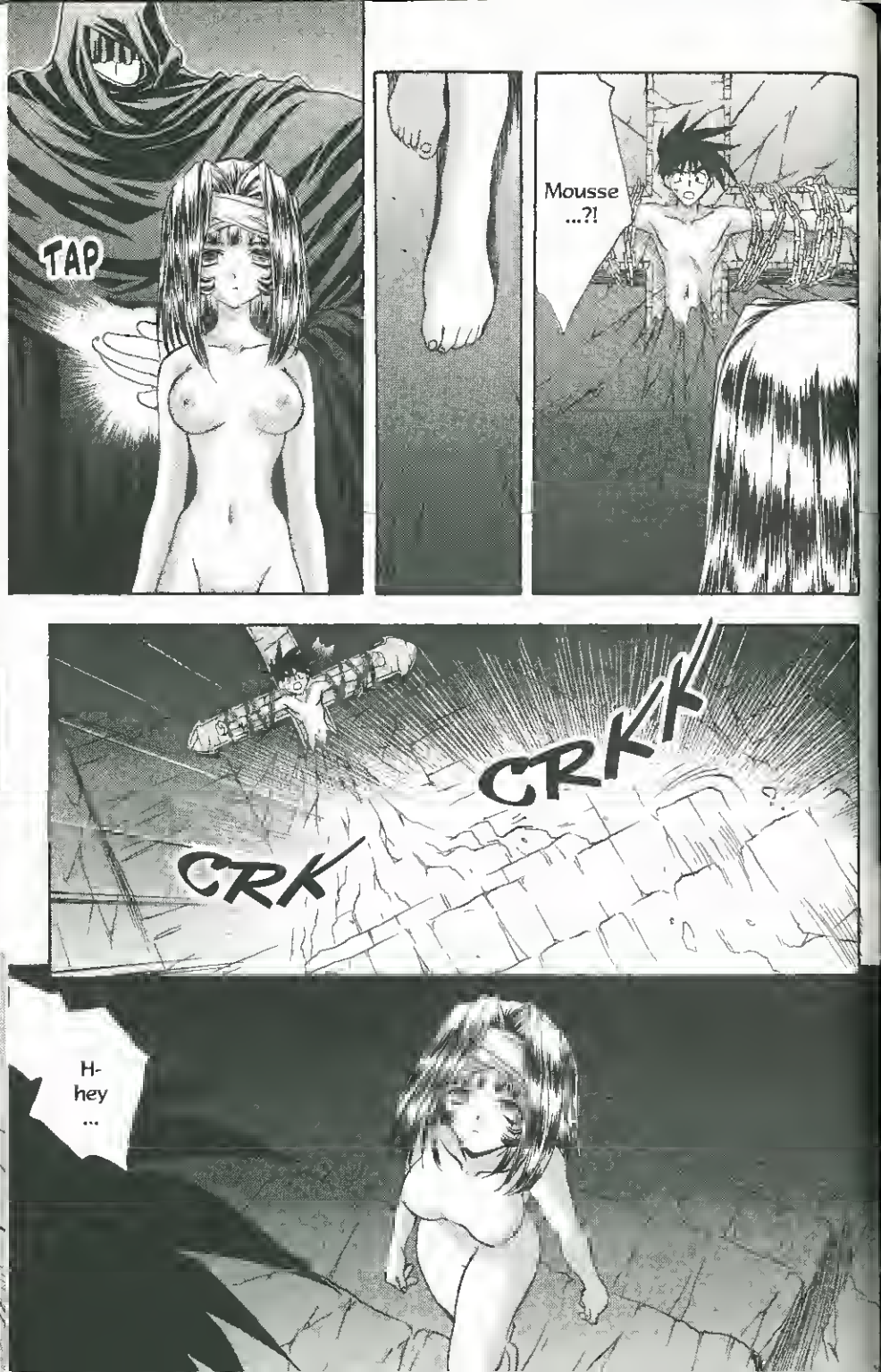
The ones who pose the greatest threat are those with the Four Heavenly Pillars within their hearts.
Marron Glac , Tira Misu, Chocolat Misu, Gateau Mocha...
Those four!

Wha?!

You jerks!
Don't you dare...!
Heh heh heh...
You can watch from here, boy.

Oh, yes...
There's something we need to do before that.

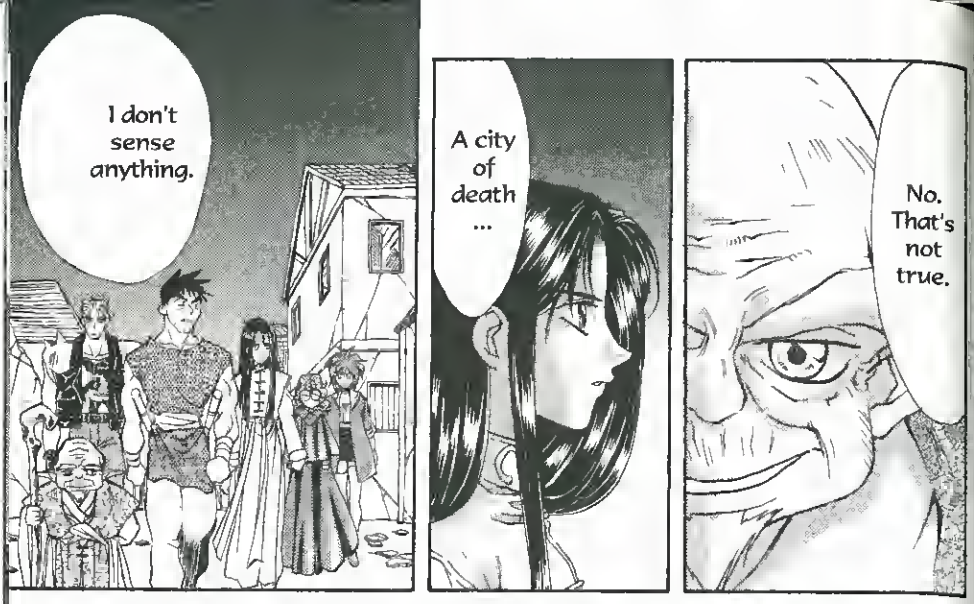
ZOD


TAP
Mousse ...?!
CRK
CRKK
H-hey ...

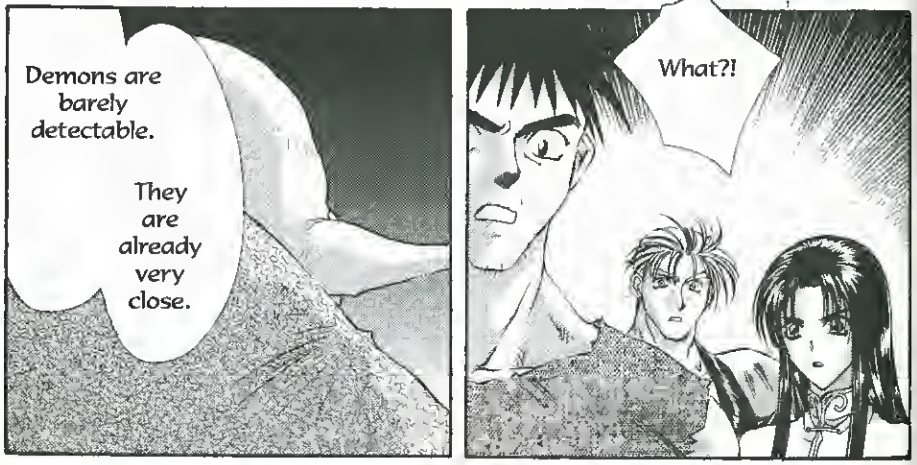
MOUSSE!
Carrot Glac , you will merge with Mousse.
Mousse, what are you...?!
WHAT?!
What did you say?!
You have chosen Mousse.
When the two of you meld, the God of Destruction will flow into Mousse!

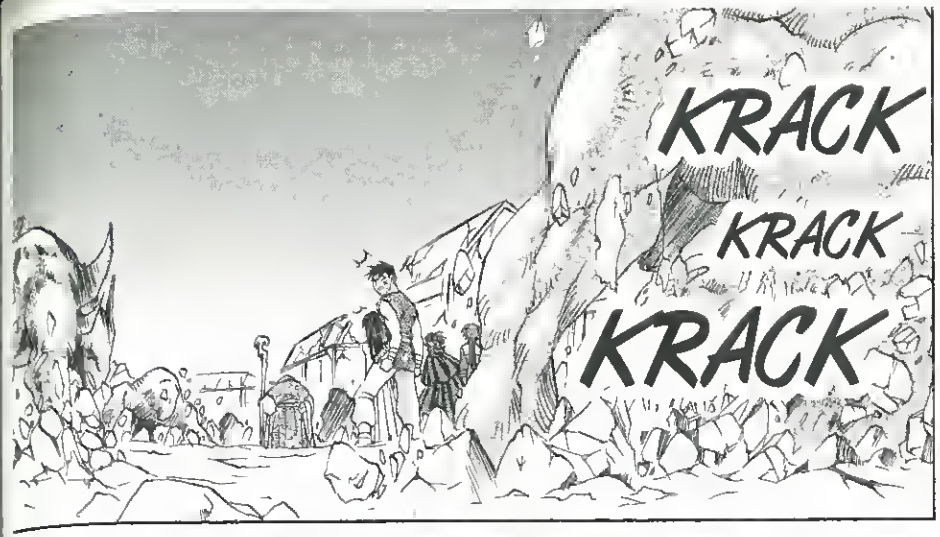
Long ago, before the humans had magic, they dabbled in many fearsome technologies.
CLONE?
From a single strand of hair, an exact copy of a person can be made.
The result of one was...
... the Clone.
Mousse is such a copy.
What?!

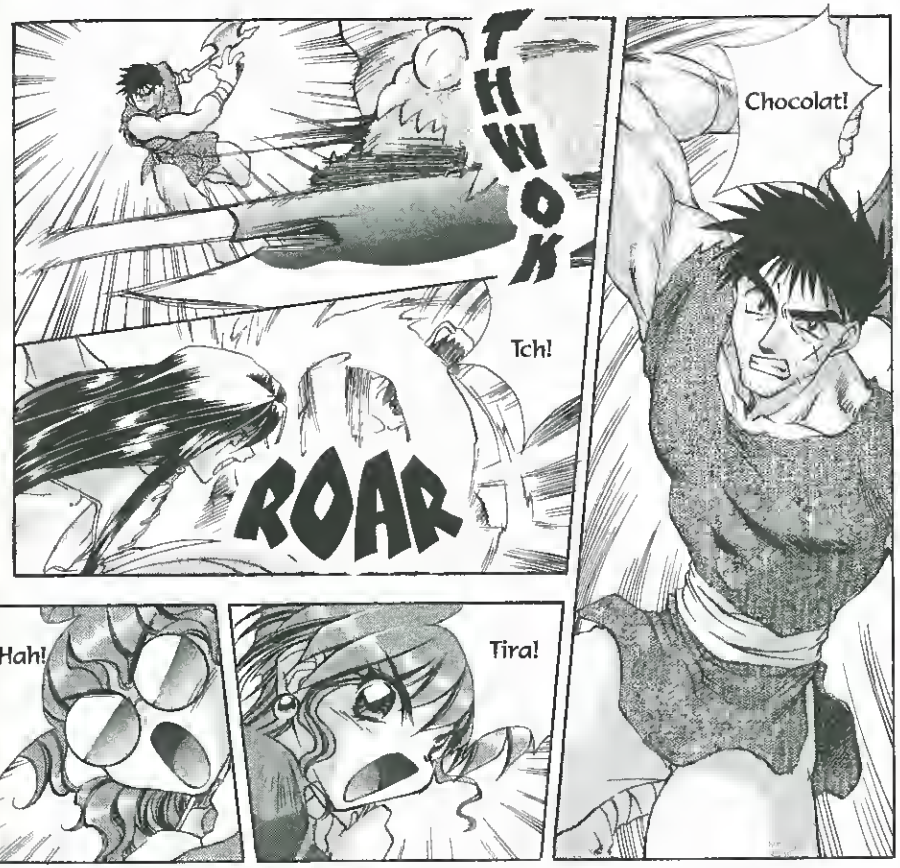
A Clone of the perfect vessel that the God of Destruction himself chose...


I don't sense anything.
A city of death ...
No. That's not true.

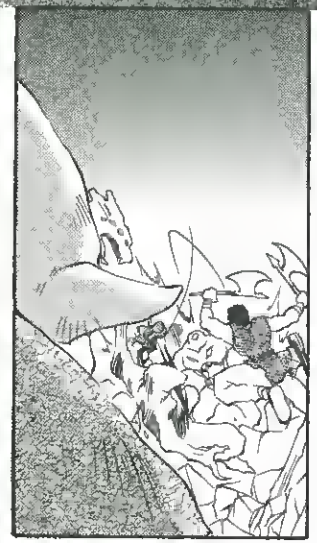
huh?

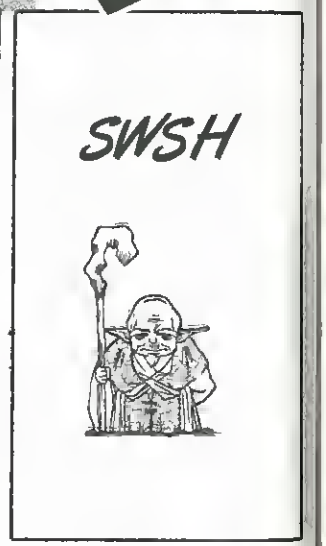

Demons are barely detectable.
They are already very close.
What?!

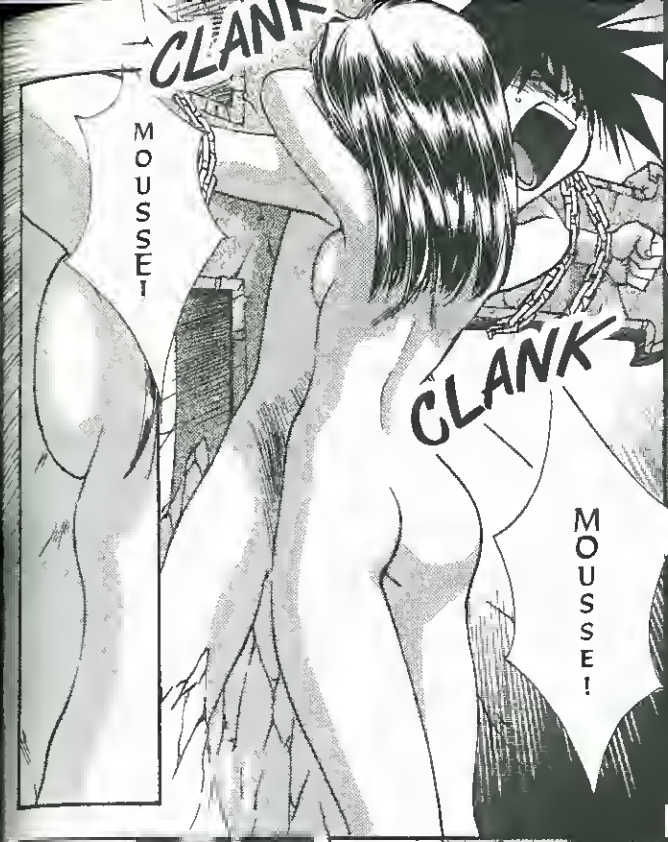

KRACK
KRACK
KRACK


THWOK
Tch!
ROAR
Chocolat!
Hah!
Tira!

OHO HO HO HO HO!
We've got no time to waste here!
URAAHH!
THUD




SWSH


CLANK
MOUSSE!
CLANK
MOUSSE!

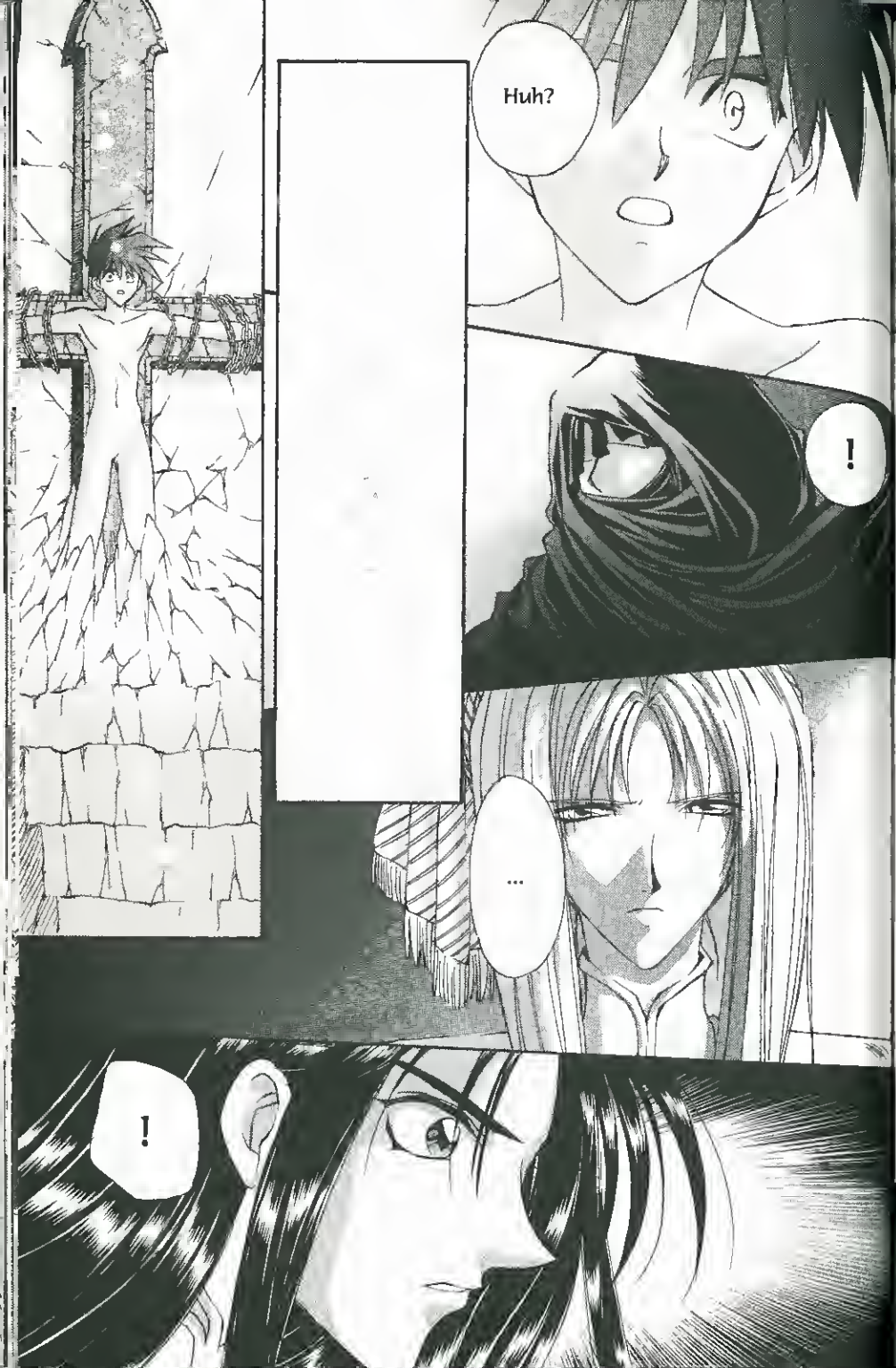
Carrot Glac ... as long as the God of Destruction resides within you, he is difficult to awaken.

Your mind is stronger than we expected.

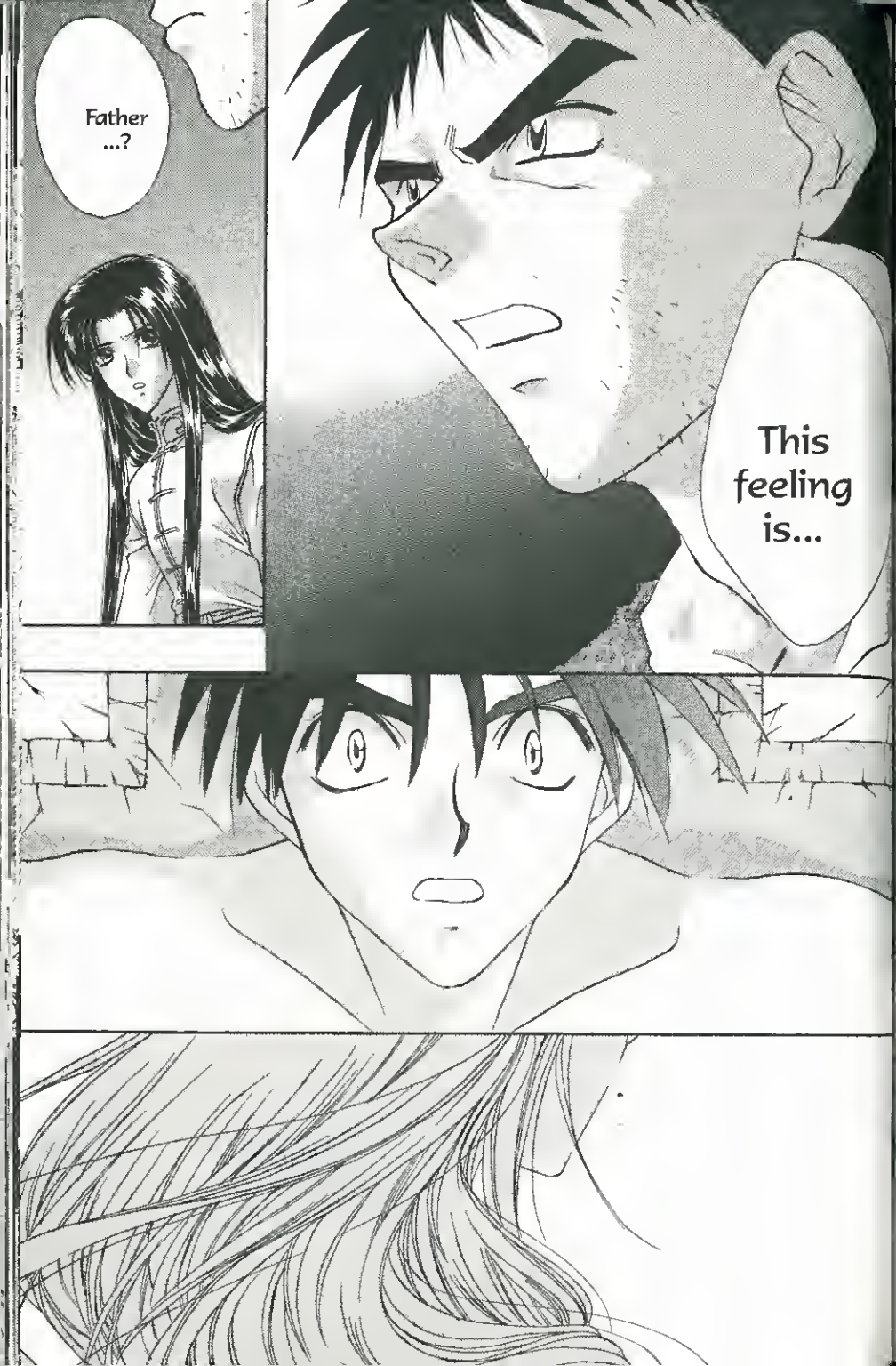
Sacher Torte didn't understand that.
So he failed to revive the God of Destruction.

unk...!
But we will transfer the God of Destruction into Mousse.
You can't just ...!
Mousse! Join with Carrot!
Stop!
Once you merge, your emotions will ignite. Those emotions, Carrot...
will unlock your heart.
From there, the God of Destruction will enter Mousse...
Don't be stupid!
I...!
Carrot, Mousse is not being forced.
She loves you from the bottom of her heart.
heh heh heh...
Does that make this any easier?
DAMMIT!
Car...
rot...

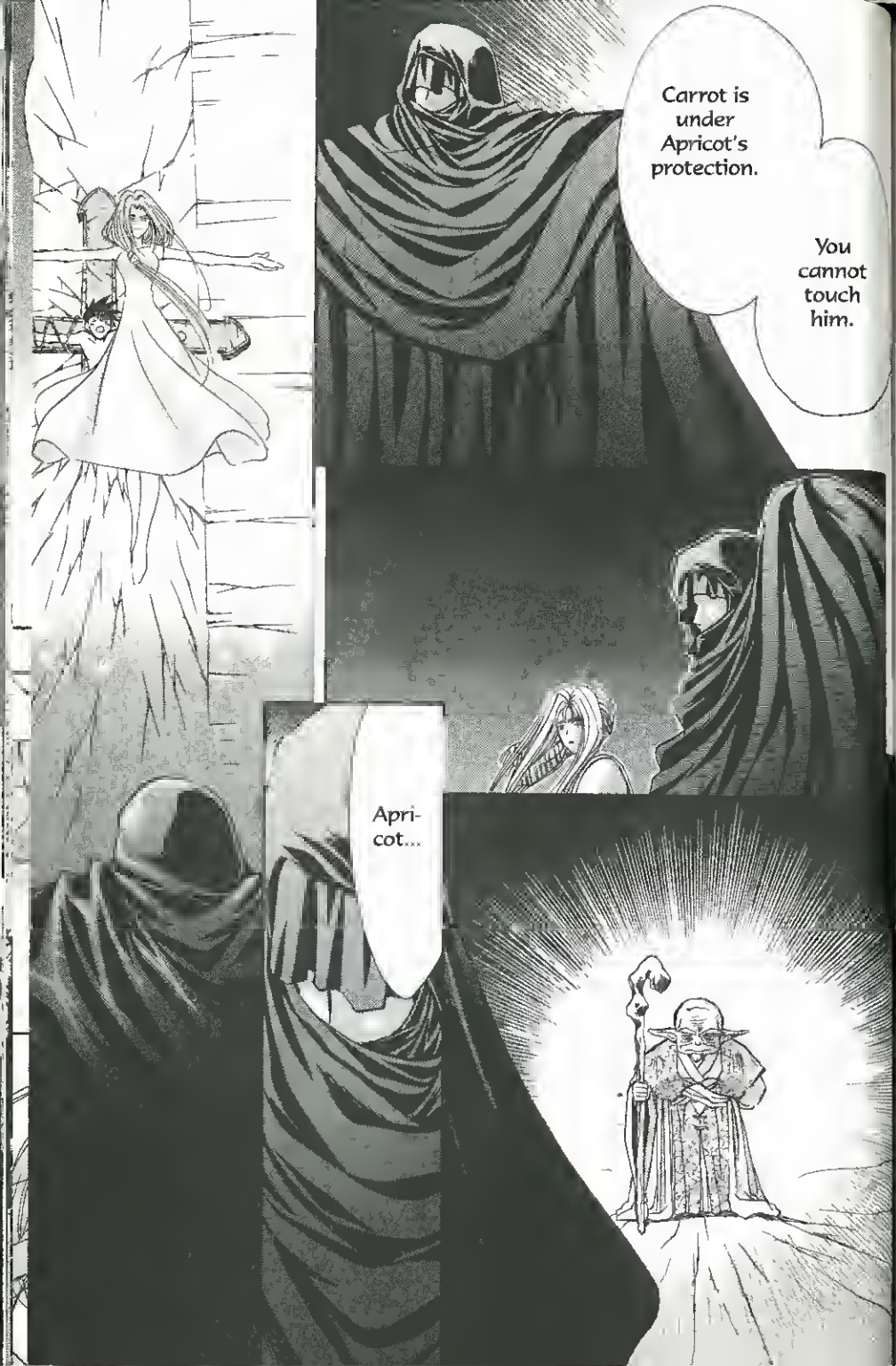
Mousse!
You can't do this!
STOPPP!!
...uh
DESTRUCTION
...!
Huh?
TWITCH
!
You must not touch...
The God of Destruction...
That wasn't Mousse.
FLOP

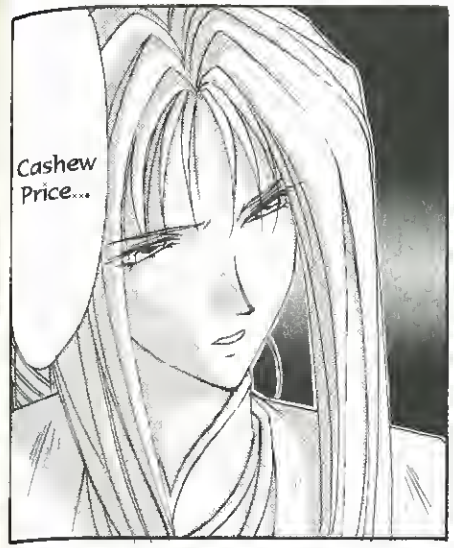

Huh?
!
...
!

I can sense my brother...
No, it's not just him...
this is...
ROAR
Marron...


Father ...?
This feeling is...

Mom?!
You must not touch the God of Destruc-tion.
Mom! Mom! Mom!

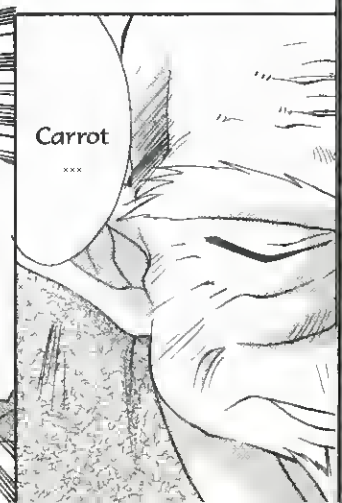

Carrot is under Apricot's protection.
You cannot touch him.
Apri-cot...

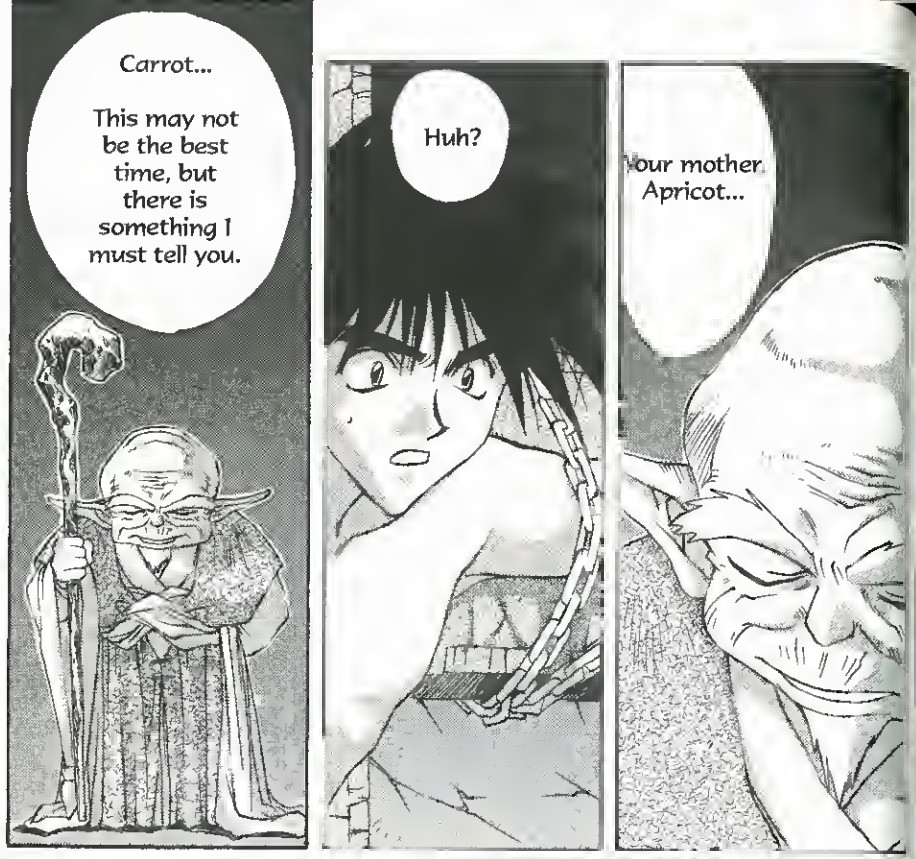

Cashew Price...

...

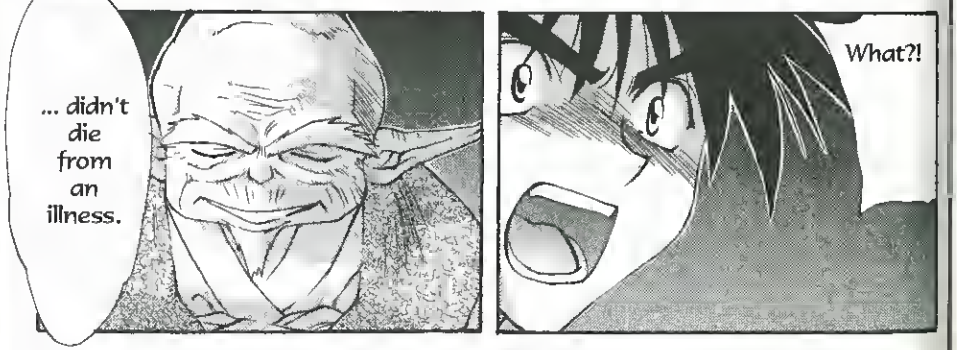
Grand Pa!

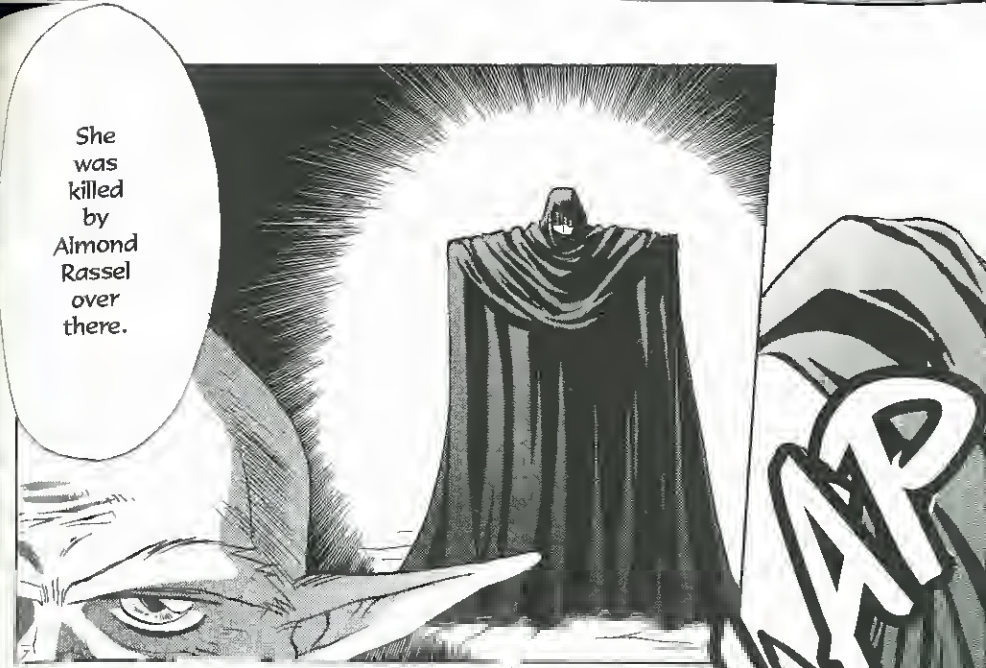
What's going on here?!
I don't understand any of this...!


Carrot
...


Carrot...
This may not be the best time, but there is something I must tell you.
Huh?
...our mother, Apricot...

JUMP

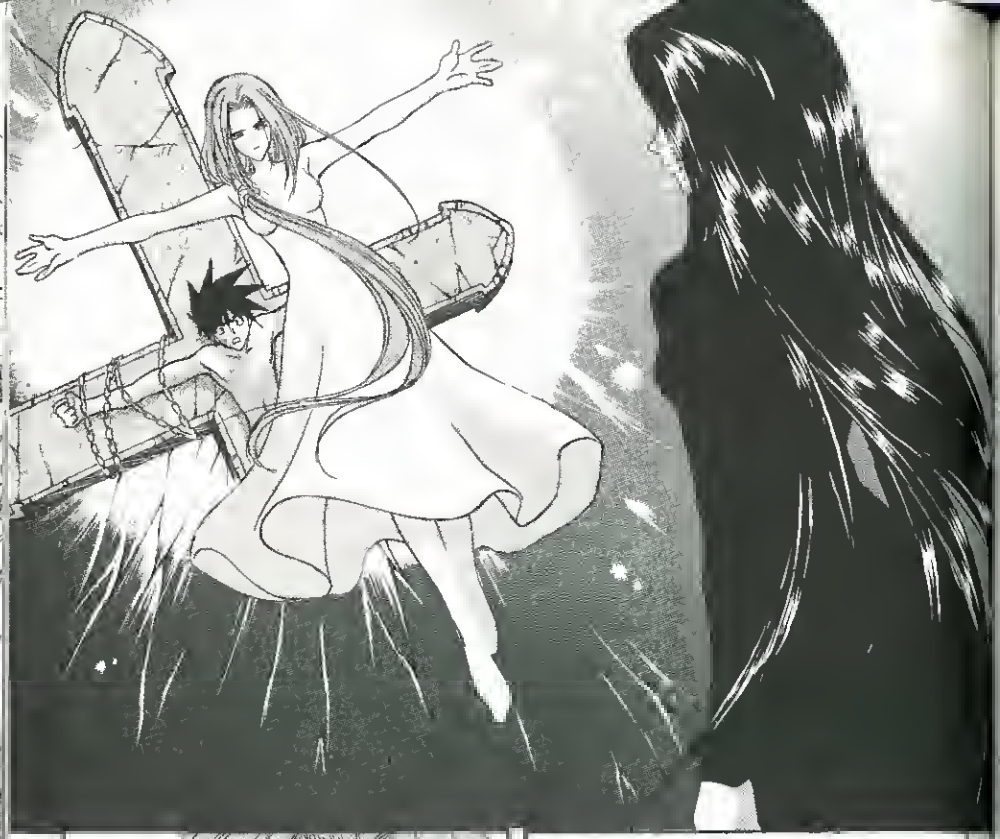

... didn't die from an illness.
What?!

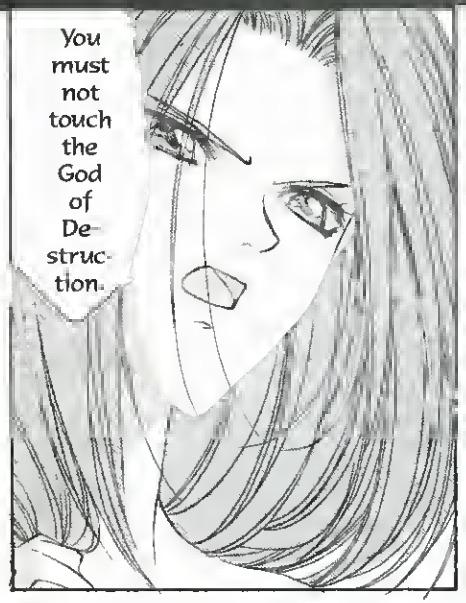

She was killed by Almond Rassel over there.

Look!
FZZT
FLAP
ZZT
Wha.. at...?!

It can't be...!

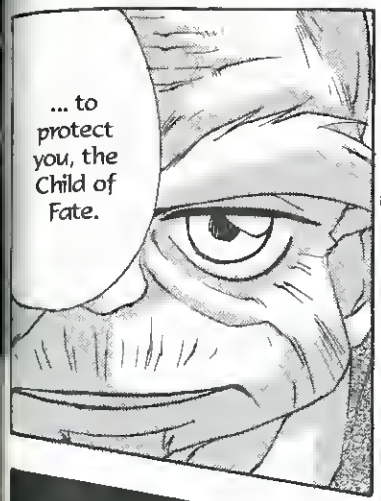
#64 Dark Mother

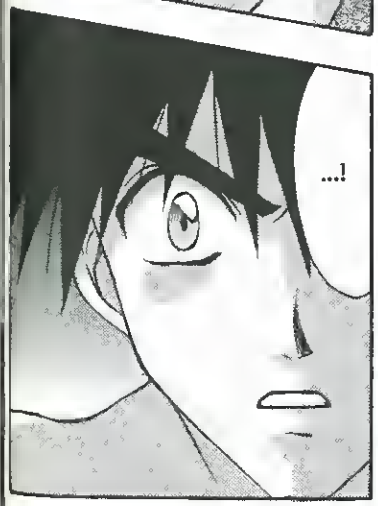


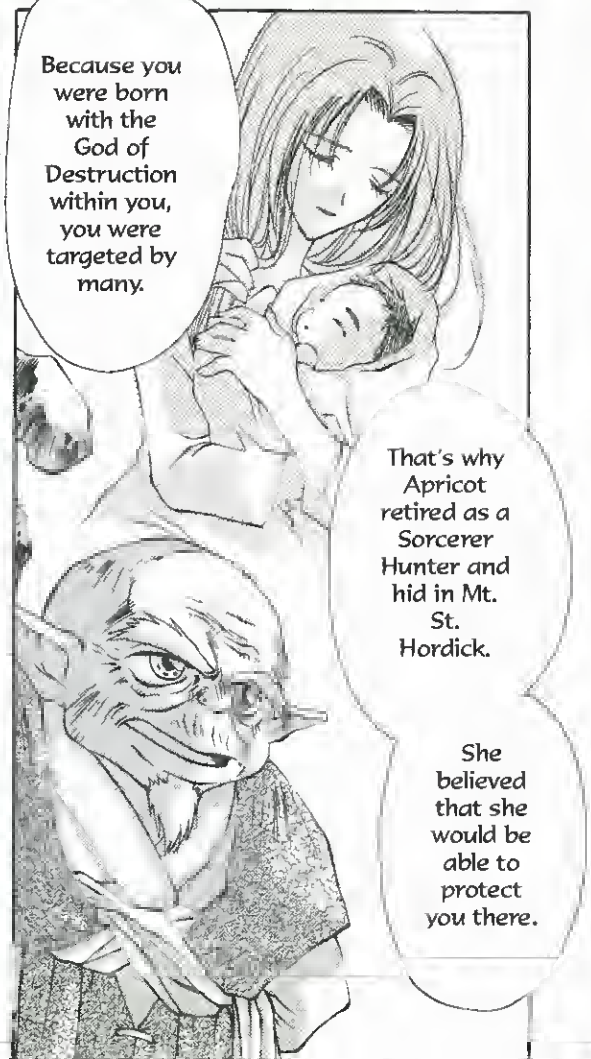

You must not touch the God of Destruction.

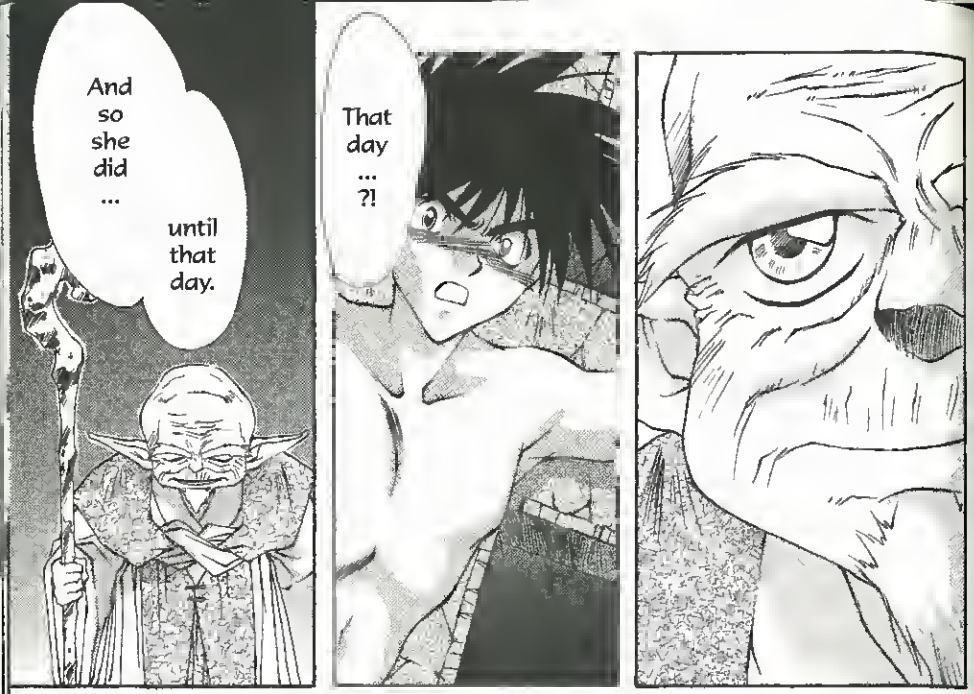
What the hell is going on here?!

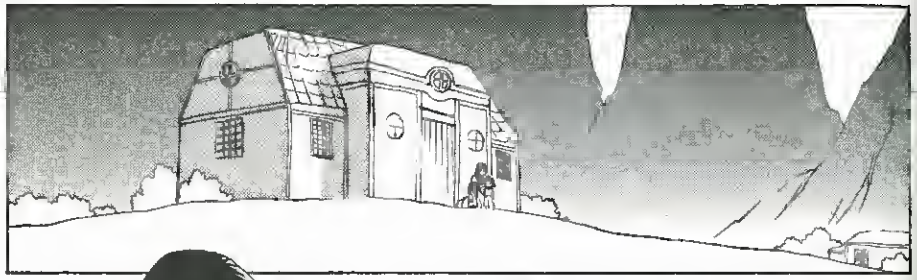
Carrot...
Apricot has been fighting since the day you were born...
Huh?

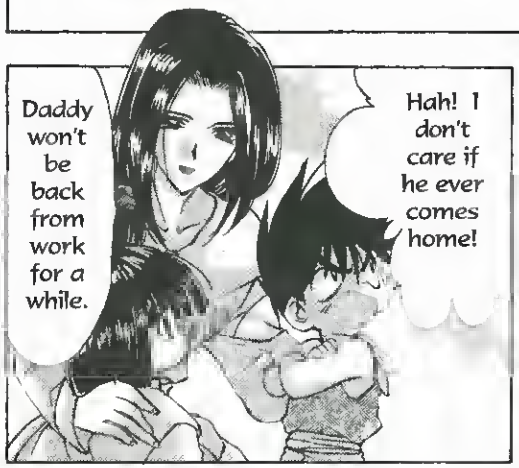

... to protect you, the Child of Fate.


...!

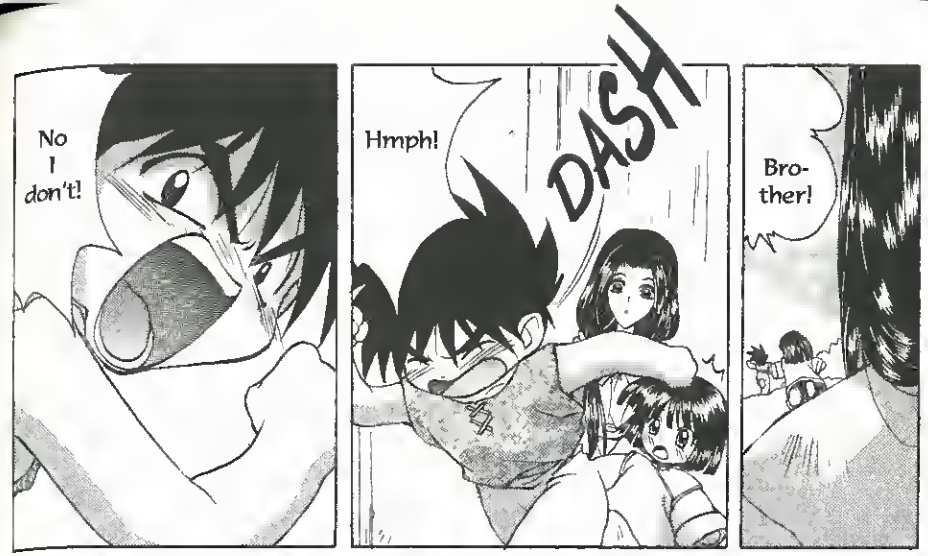

Because you were born with the God of Destruction within you, you were targeted by many.
That's why Apricot retired as a Sorcerer Hunter and hid in Mt. St. Hordick.
She believed that she would be able to protect you there.


And so she did ...
until that day.
That day ...?!




Daddy won't be back from work for a while.
Hah! I don't care if he ever comes home!

Brother ...
You miss him, don't you?

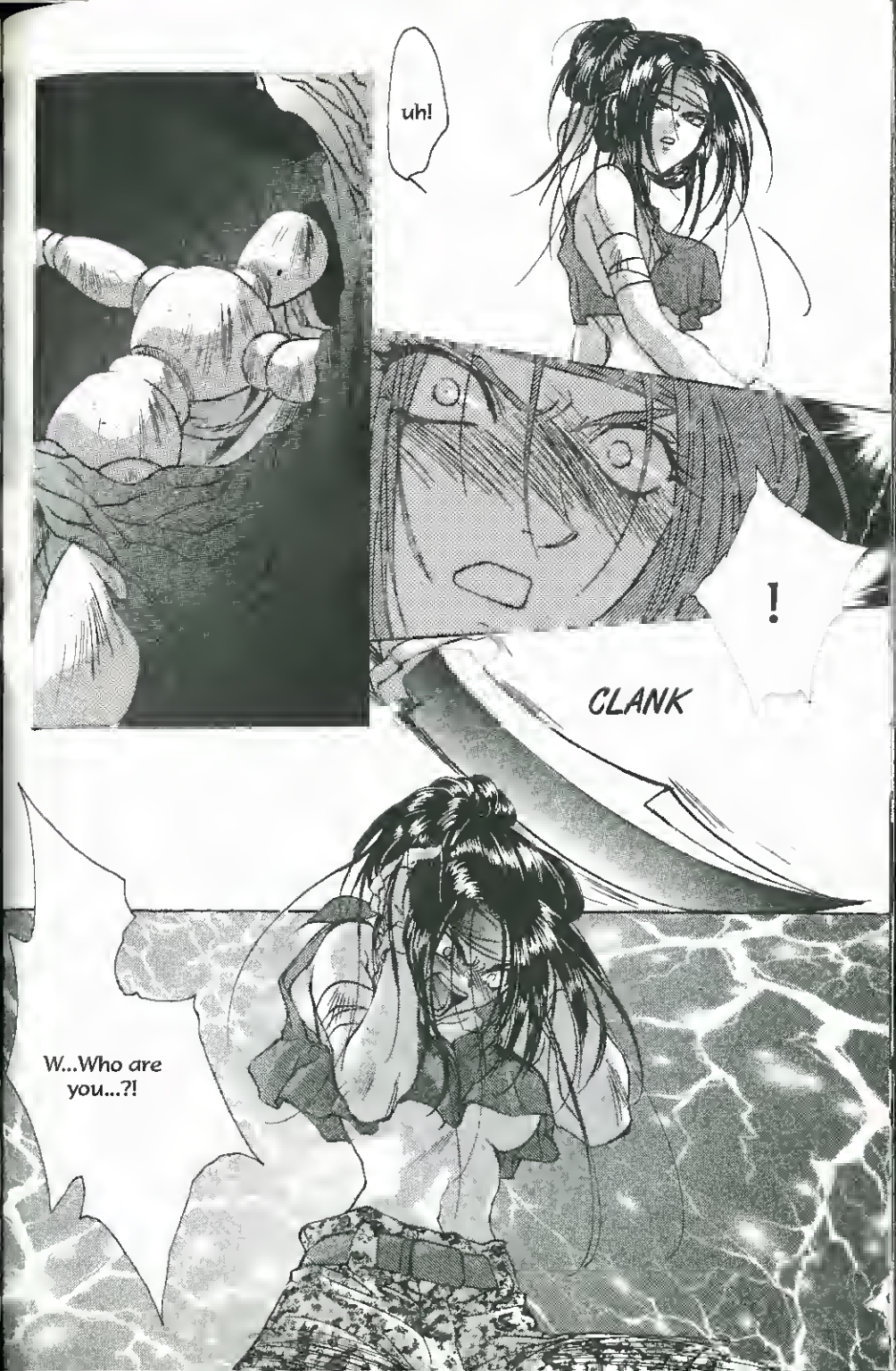

No I don't!
Hmph!
DASH
Brother!

tee hee hee...

GASP
Impossible ... How could a demon be here?!

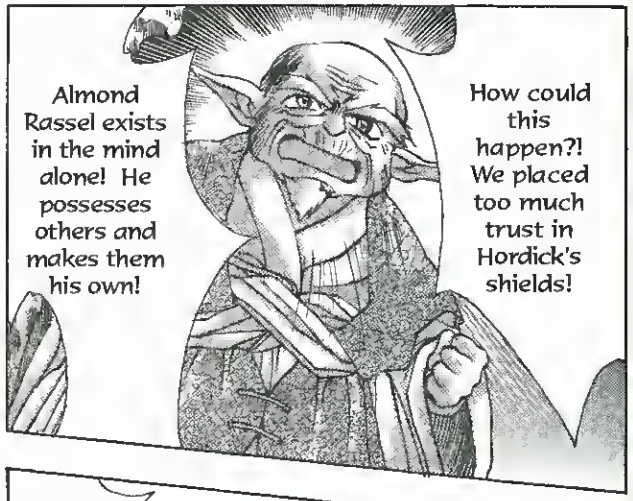
Apricot ...
So that was the Child of Fate.
!
FLAP
Spirits of Fire!
ROAR
... Hah! ...
WMMM
BOOM
Such power... One of the Lords of Darkness?!
My name is Almond Rassel.
I have come for the God of Destruction.

You must not touch the God of Destruction ...
I...
SLASH
SLASH
...am Carrot's guardian!
What?!


uh!
!
CLANK
W...Who are you...?!

Apricot!
G... Grand Pa...

Is Almond Rassel here?!
uhh...


Almond Rassel exists in the mind alone! He possesses others and makes them his own!
How could this happen?! We placed too much trust in Hordick's shields!

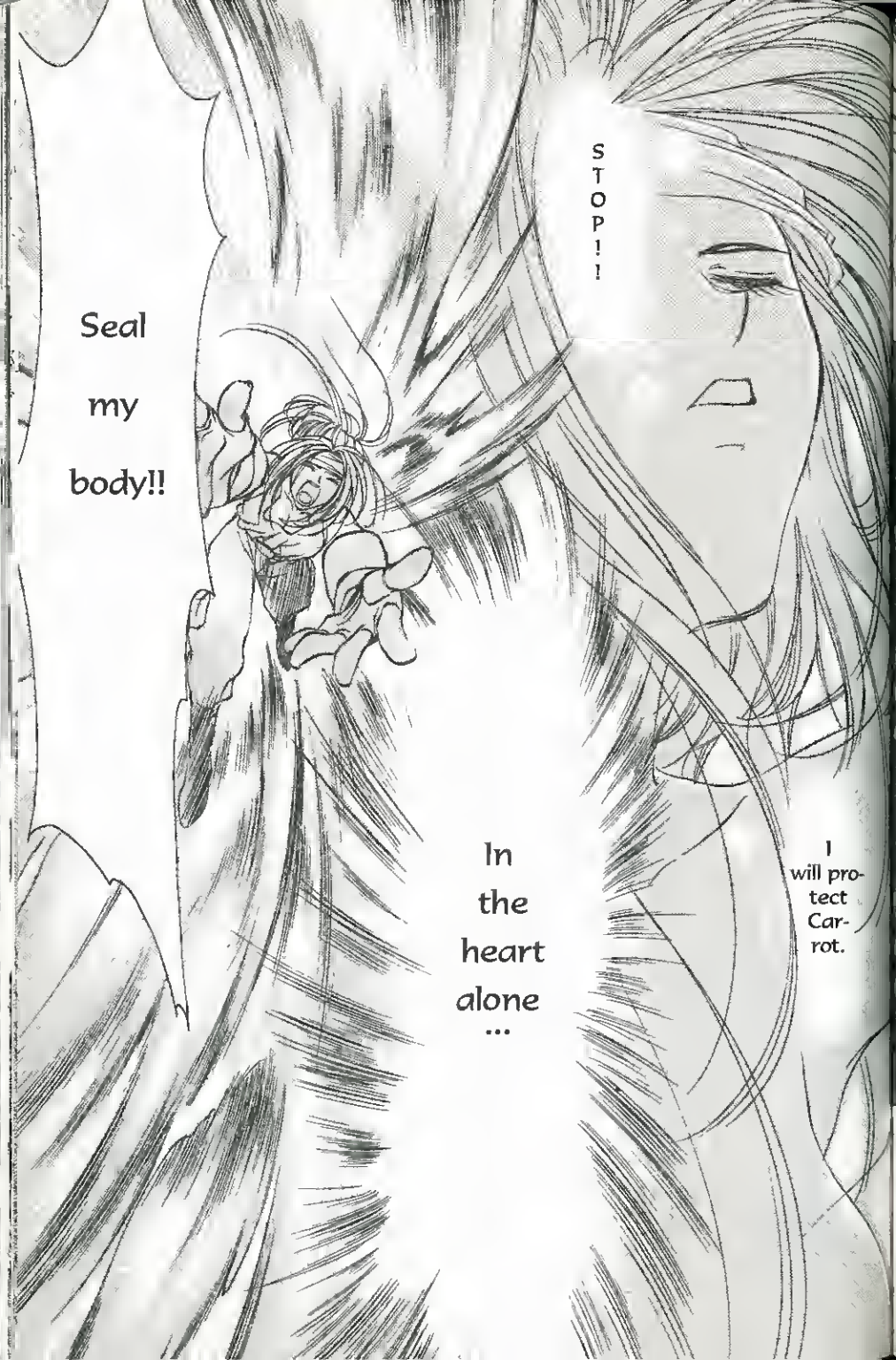
uhhh hhh...

I will inhabit your body, Apricot!
I won't ... let that happen!
AAAGGHHHH!!
Apricot!
Then it will be easy to revive the God of Destruction within your son!
Grand Pa...

There's something ...
I want to ask...
Apri-cot?!
If... I were... to die... right now...
What would happen... to Almond Rassel...?
He would simply escape. Almond Rassel is ... a formless demon.
Then...
I will seal him... inside my body...
Apricot, what are you...?!
What do you think you're doing?!
Yes, take my body!
You will never... leave it ...
Again!
What?!

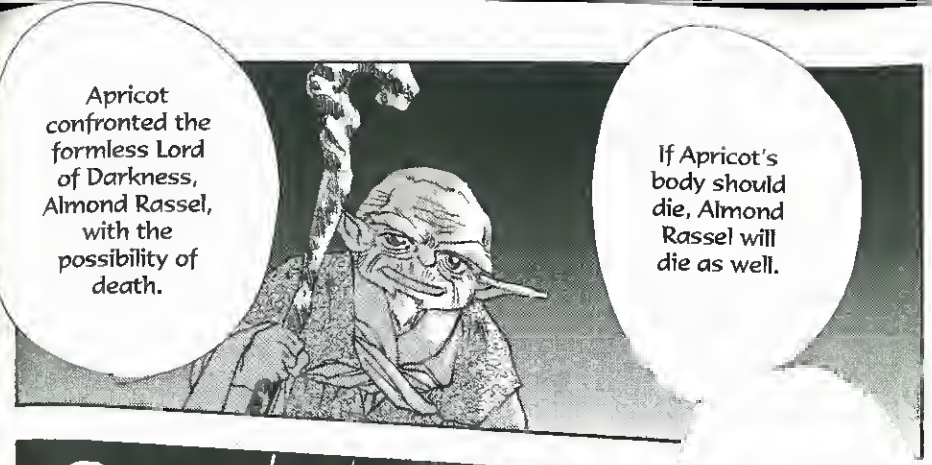
Grand Pa...
Apricot... are you...?
heh
Please, take care...
of my children.

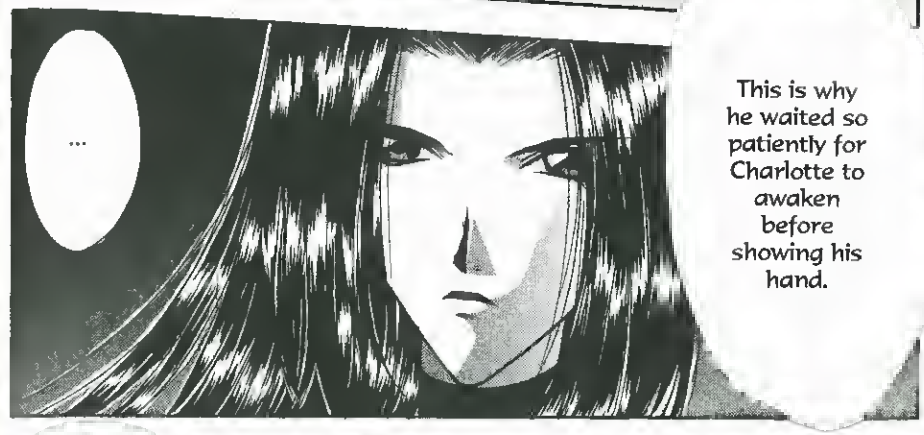
Apri-cot...
And tell Onion...
I'm sorry I left before him...
I under-stand ...
BOOST
Spirits of Nature ...

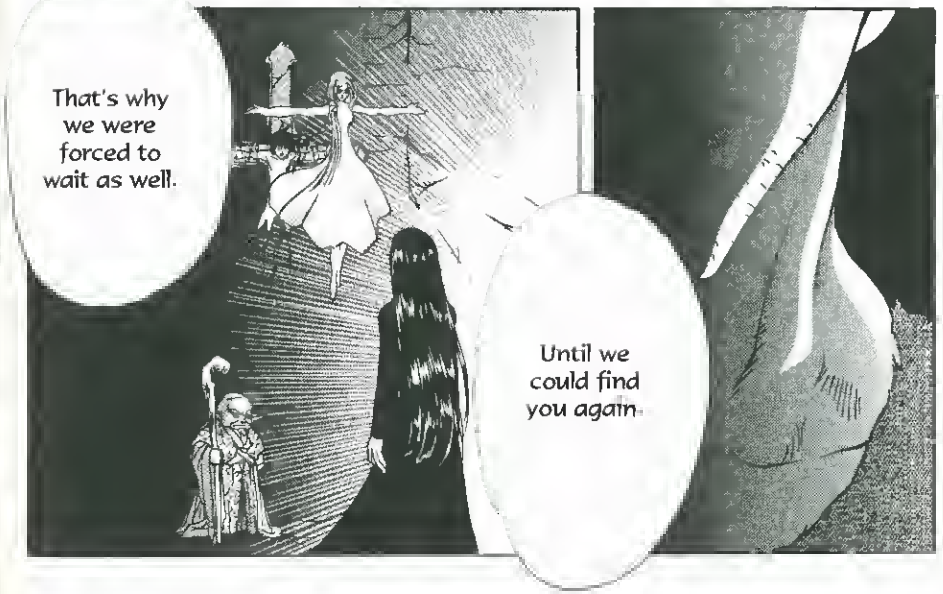

STOP!!
Seal my body!!
In the heart alone...
I will protect Carrot.

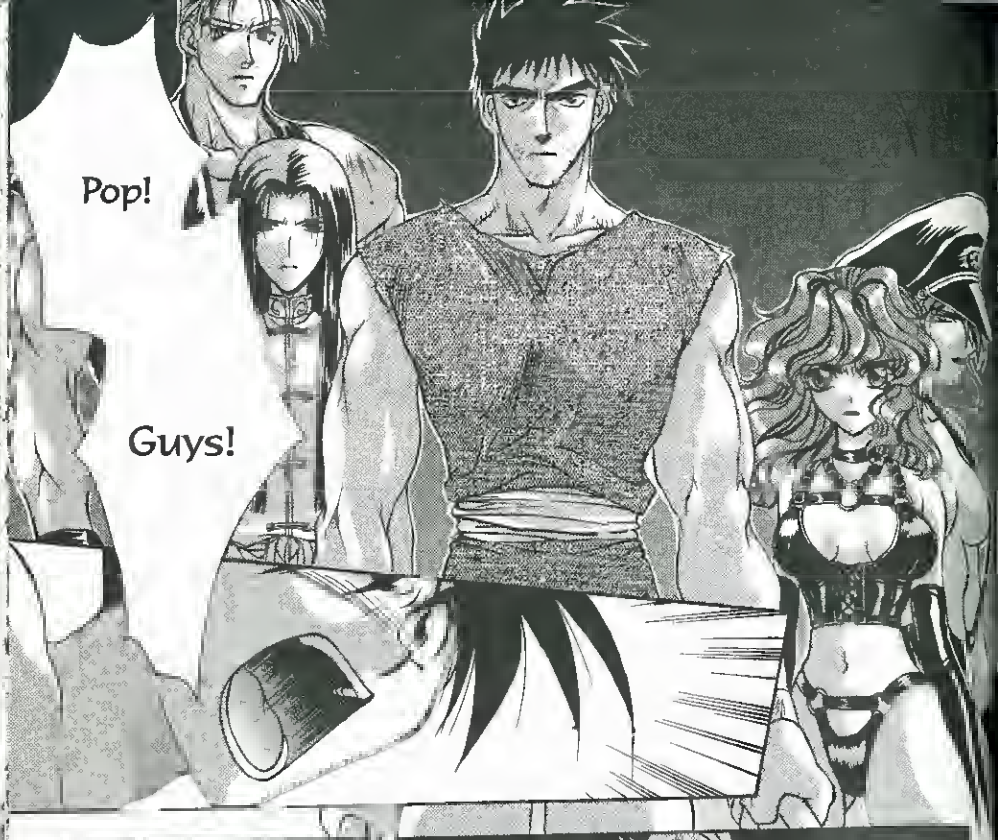
Apricot!!

You bastard ...
How dare you ...
How dare you ...
How dare you take my mother !!
...
...


Apricot confronted the formless Lord of Darkness, Almond Rassel, with the possibility of death.
If Apricot's body should die, Almond Rassel will die as well.


...
This is why he waited so patiently for Charlotte to awaken before showing his hand.

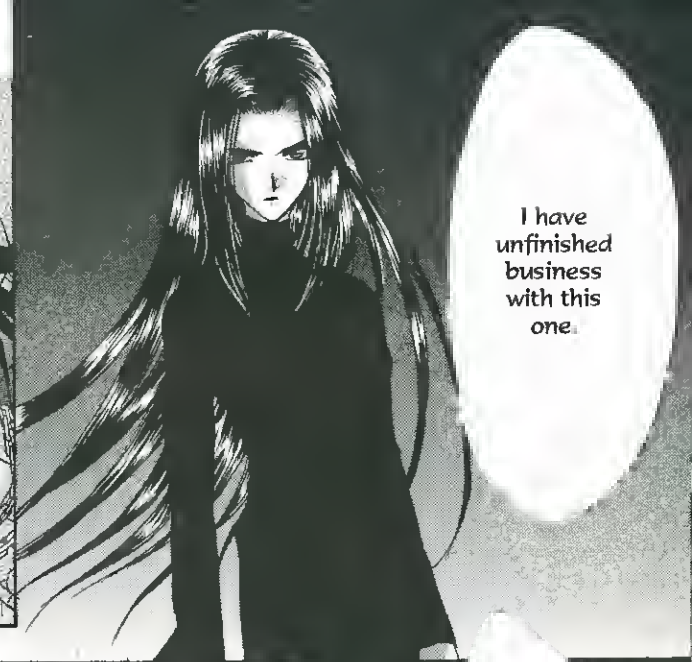

That's why we were forced to wait as well.
Until we could find you again.

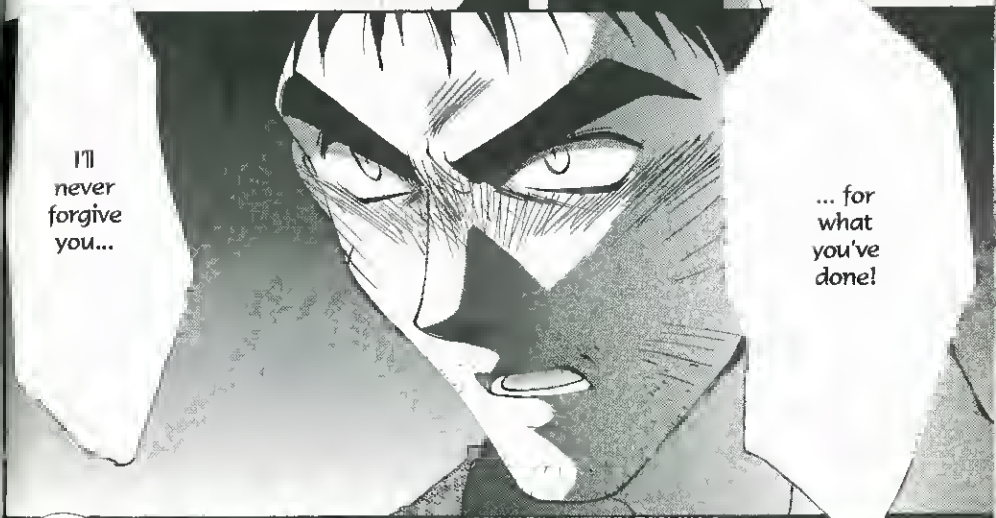

Pop!
Guys!

Bro-
ther!

Car-
rot!
Dar-
ling!

Carrot,
you'll have
to wait a
moment
longer.


I have
unfinished
business
with this
one.

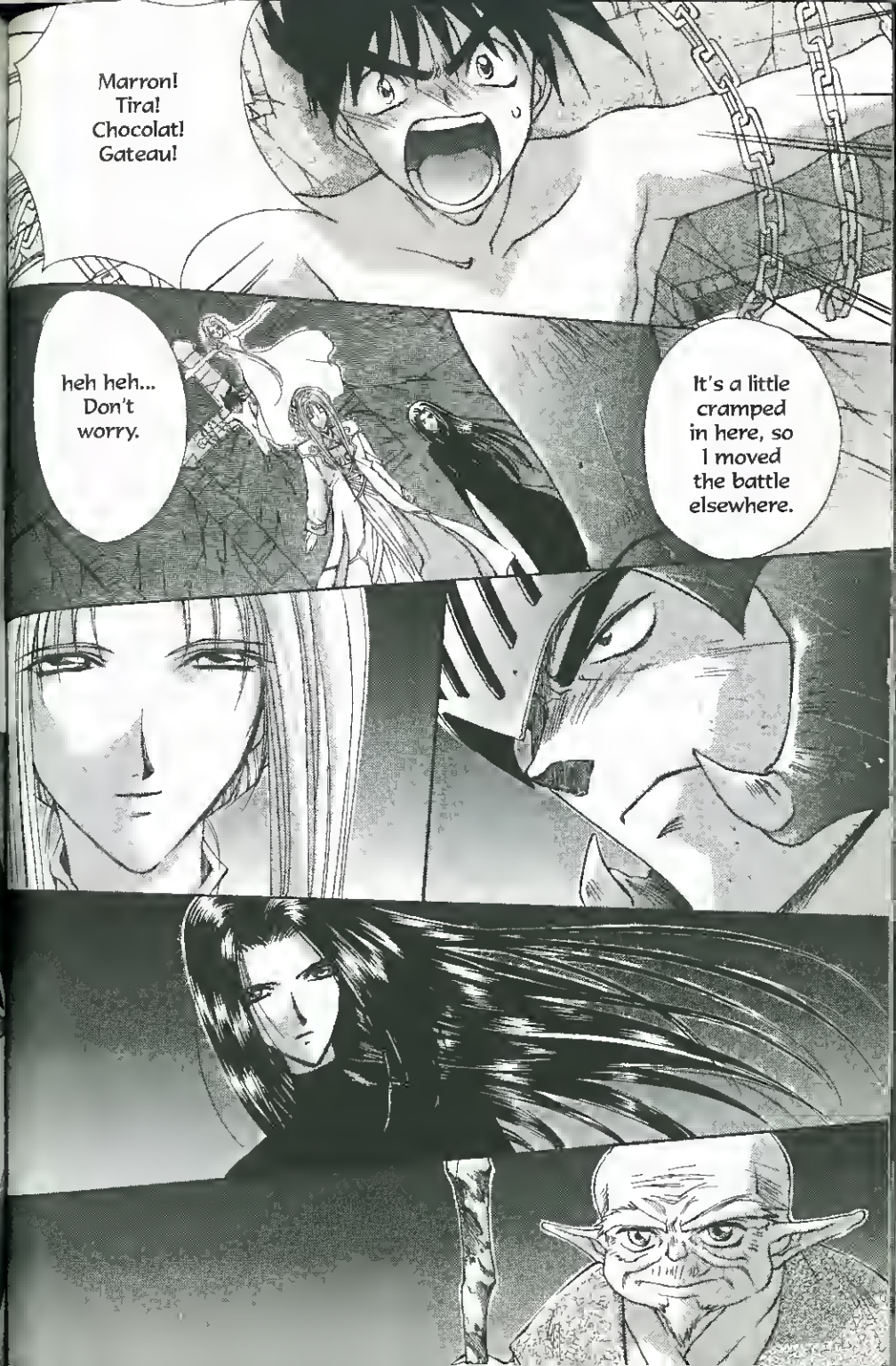

I'll
never
forgive
you...
... for
what
you've
done!

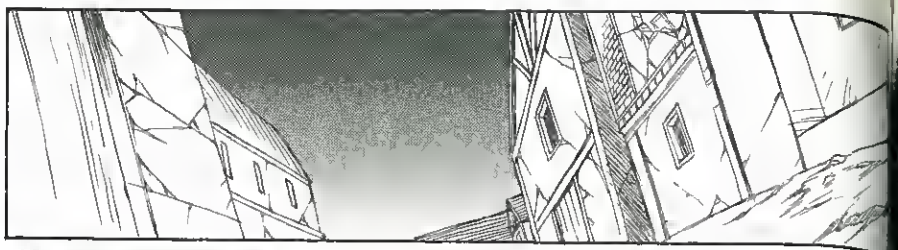
We will
avenge
Mother.

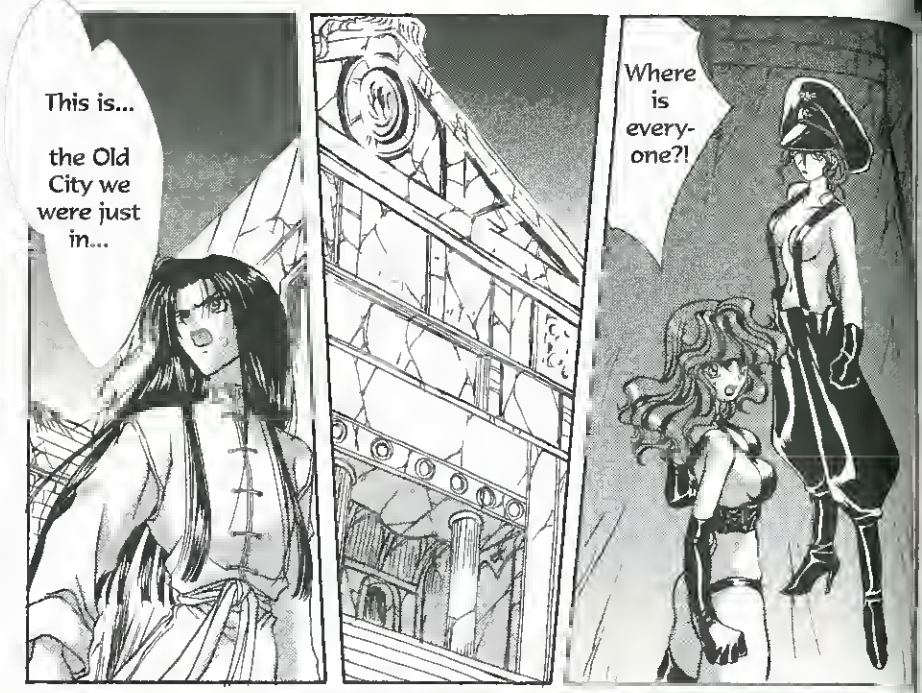
For
Aunt
Apricot
...!
...You
die.

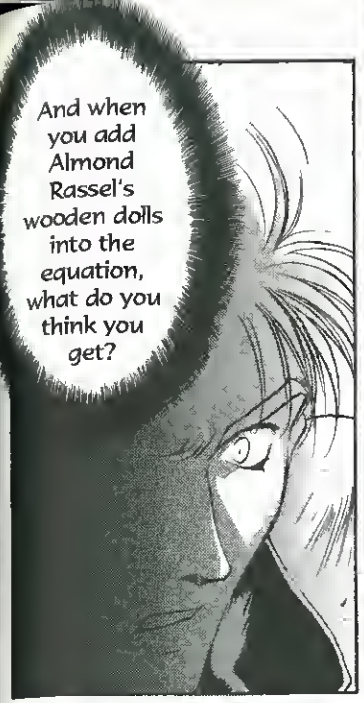
Can you really kill me, Onion...?
The one who bears the face of your beloved wife?
I can!
CLANG
That is the form of my love!
For I am the one who carries on Apricot's will!
...
Now this is getting interesting.
But how unfair... five against two...
Including the old man, six against two.

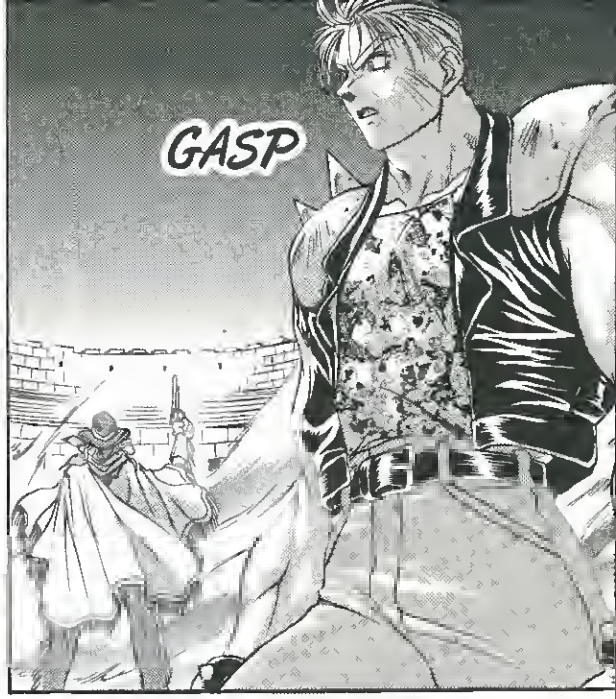
You're one to talk!
Why don't you use some of your wooden dolls!
Heh heh heh... Not nearly as inter-esting.
So this is a special present from Almond Rassel and I.
That can't be!
heh heh heh...
AACK!
WOOM
WOOM
Yeek!

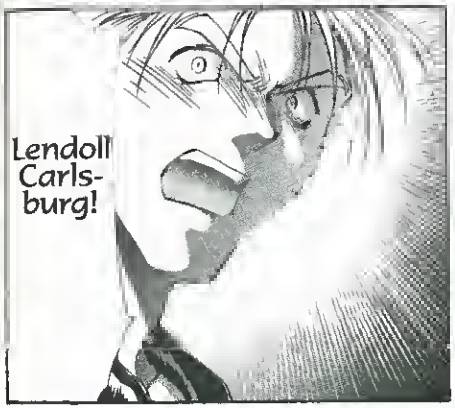

Marron! Tira! Chocolat! Gateau!
heh heh... Don't worry.
It's a little cramped in here, so I moved the battle elsewhere.

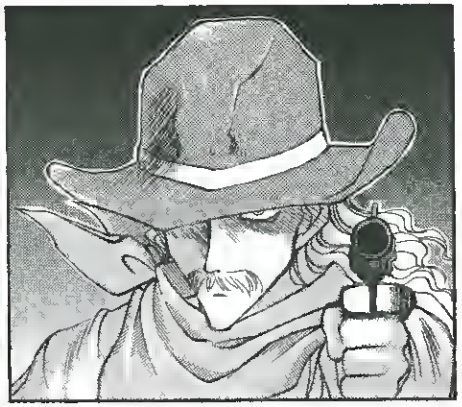


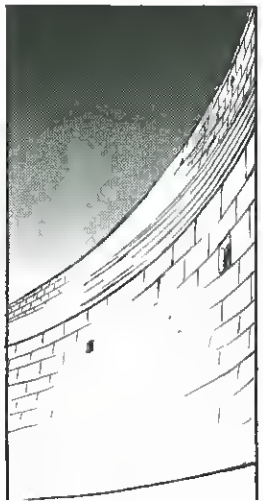

This is...
the Old City we were just in...
Where is every-one?!

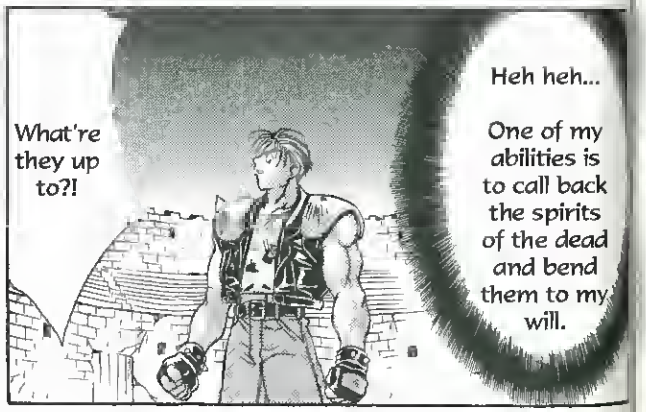

And when you add Almond Rassel's wooden dolls into the equation, what do you think you get?


GASP


Lendoll Carls-burg!

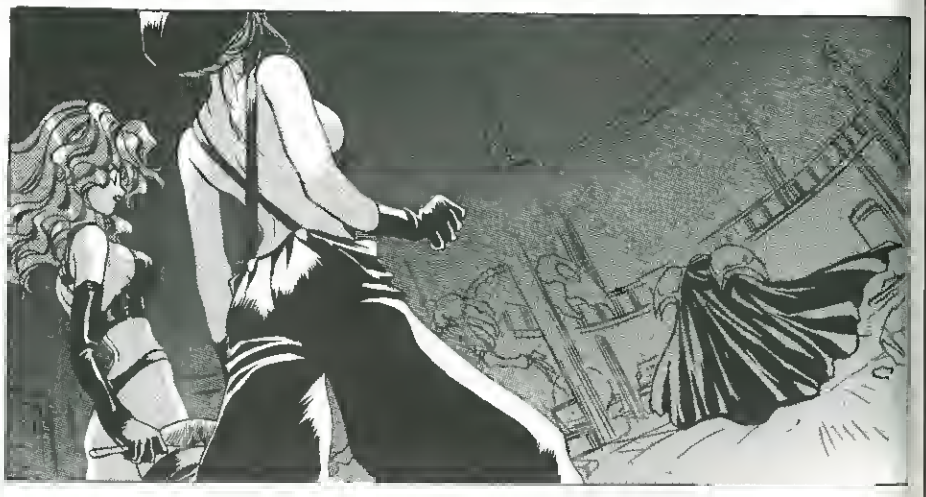


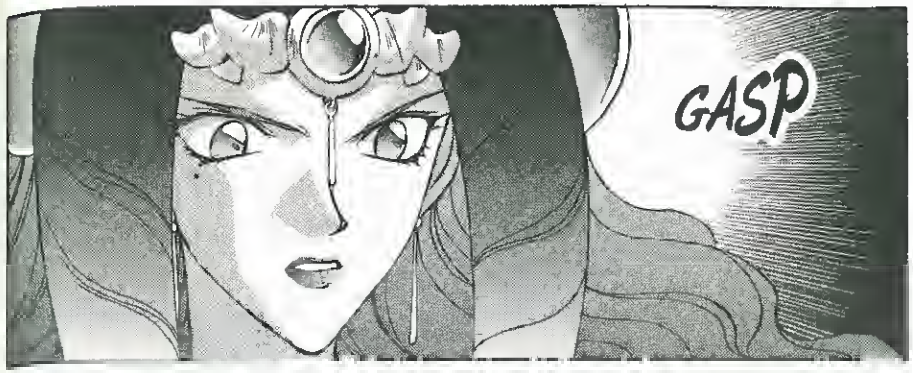



What're they up to?!
Heh heh...
One of my abilities is to call back the spirits of the dead and bend them to my will.

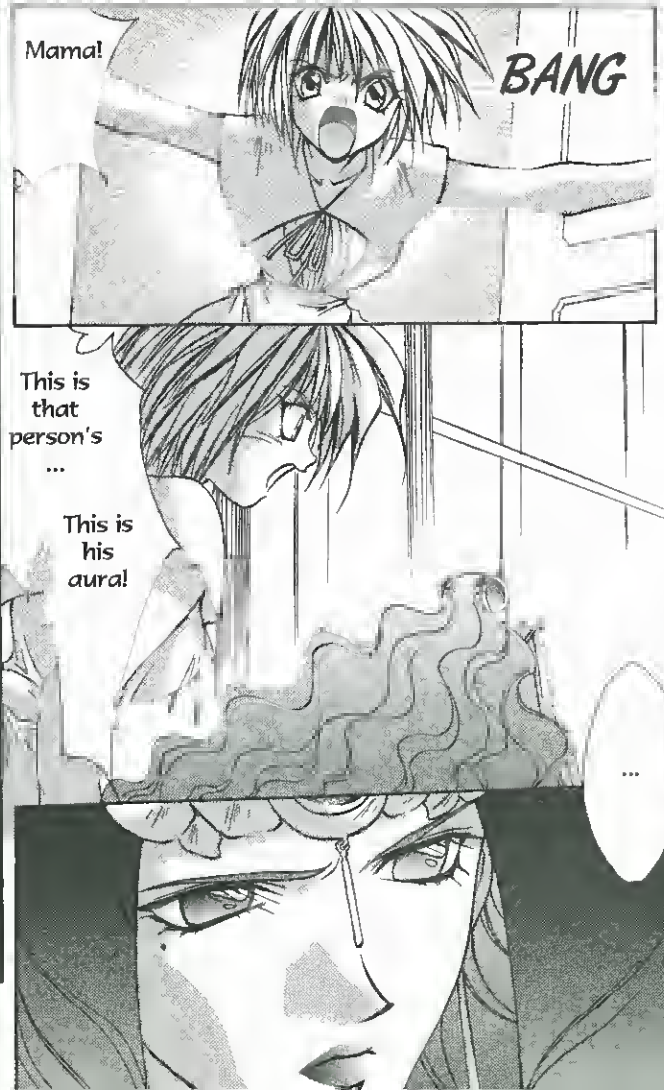
Necro-
mancer
Death
Master!

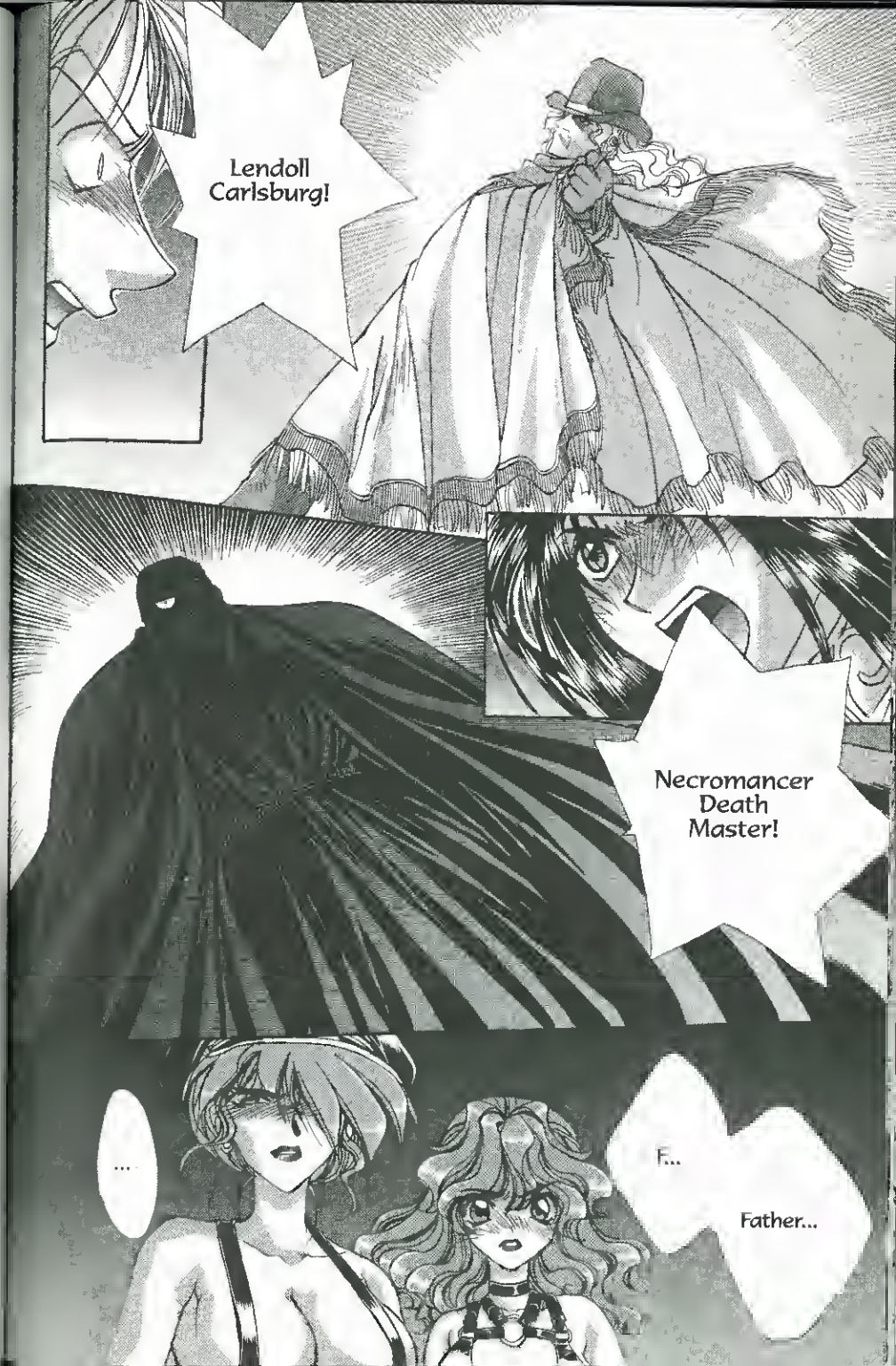
ahh
...!




GASP

This
is...!


Mama!
BANG
This is
that
person's
...
This is
his
aura!
...


Lendoll Carlsburg!
Necromancer Death Master!
...
F...
Father...

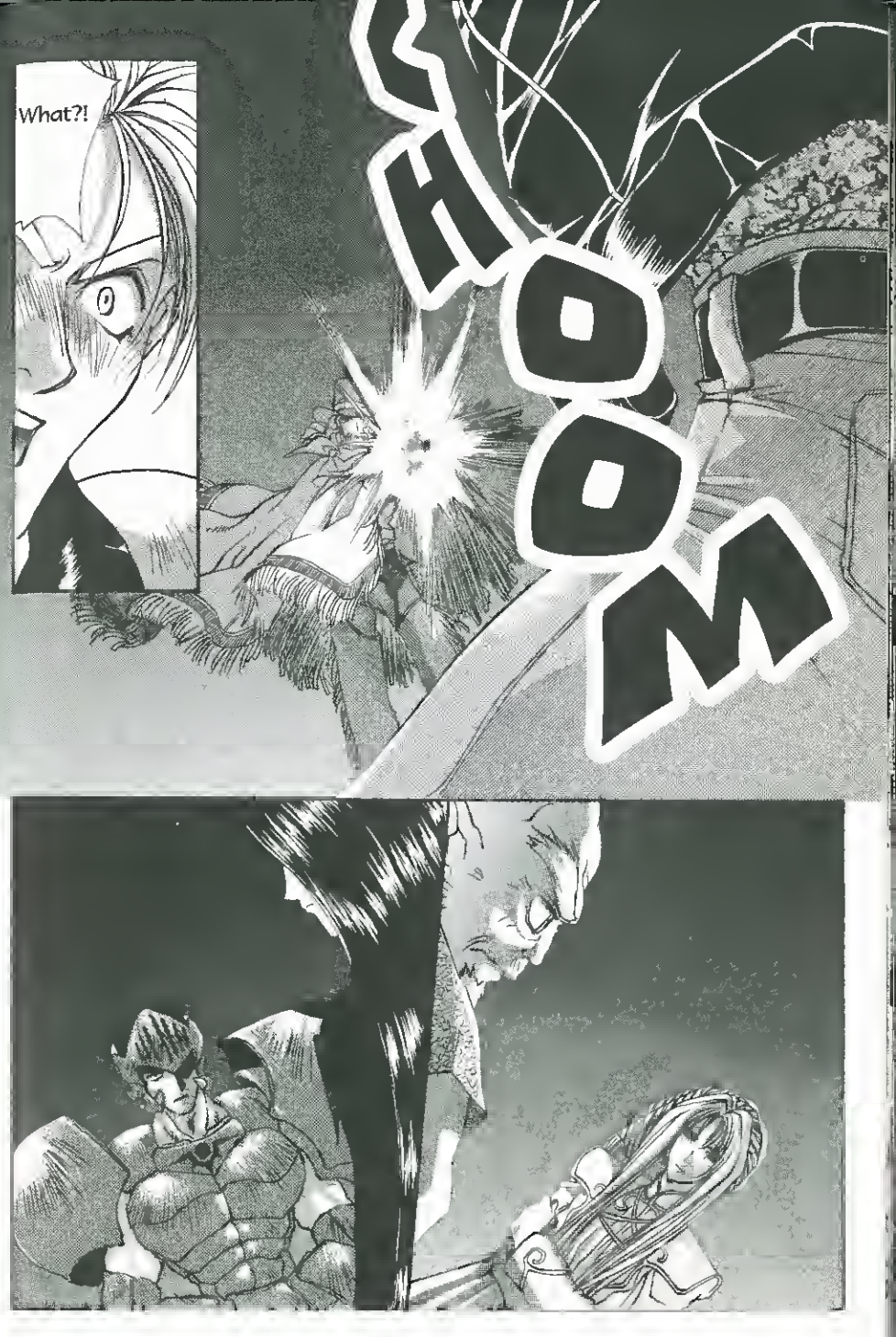
#65 Death Match

What's going on here?!
Has he really come back to life...?
SWSH
!

Heh heh heh...
FLAP
Heh heh... Don't be in such a hurry! The Lords of Darkness have given me even more power!
CRK
CRK
CRK
Look!

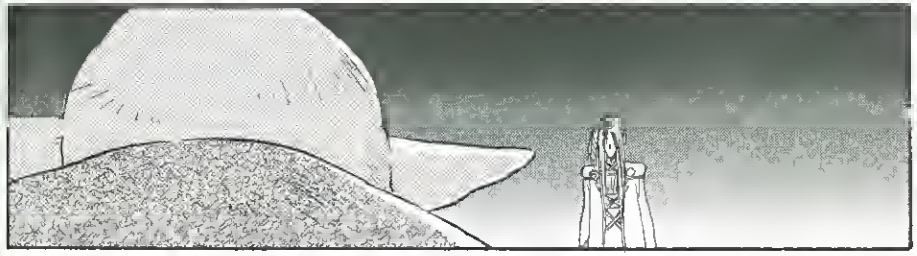
Heh heh heh...
I'll tear you to pieces!
RUMBLE
SKSSHH
Too easy!

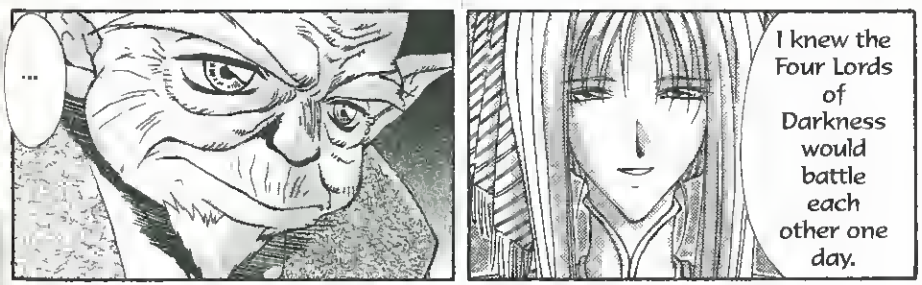
GRAB
Oh no!
One shot.

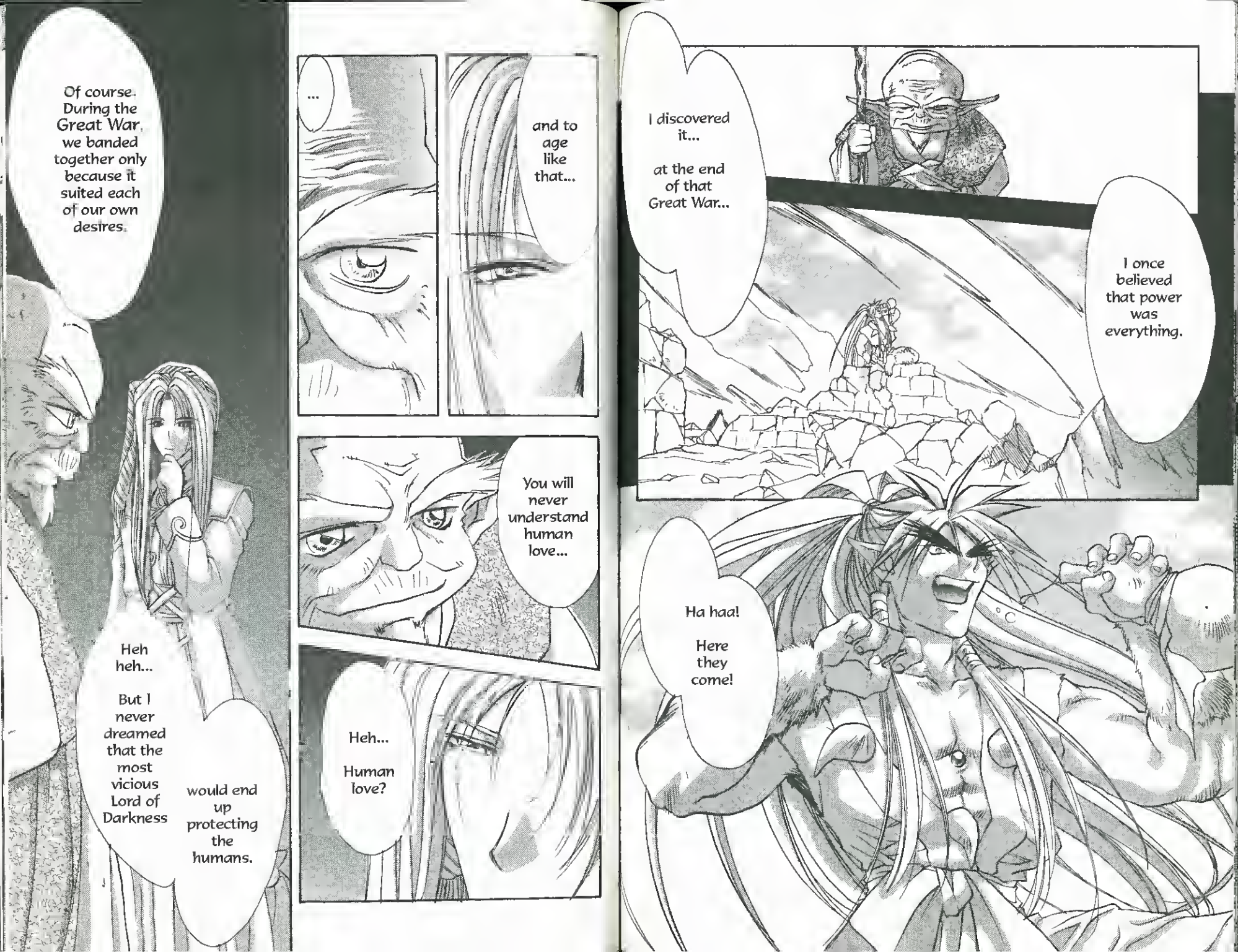

What?!
KABOOM

URAAAHH!!
ah...
HAAH!!

...
I told you...
It's no use hiding inside Apricot's form!




...
I knew the Four Lords of Darkness would battle each other one day.


Of course. During the Great War, we banded together only because it suited each of our own desires.
Heh heh...
But I never dreamed that the most vicious Lord of Darkness
would end up protecting the humans.
...
and to age like that...
You will never understand human love...
Heh...
Human love?
I discovered it...
at the end of that Great War...
I once believed that power was everything.
Ha haa!
Here they come!

URYAAHHH!!
THUD
HAAH!
URAAAHH!!
GROARRR

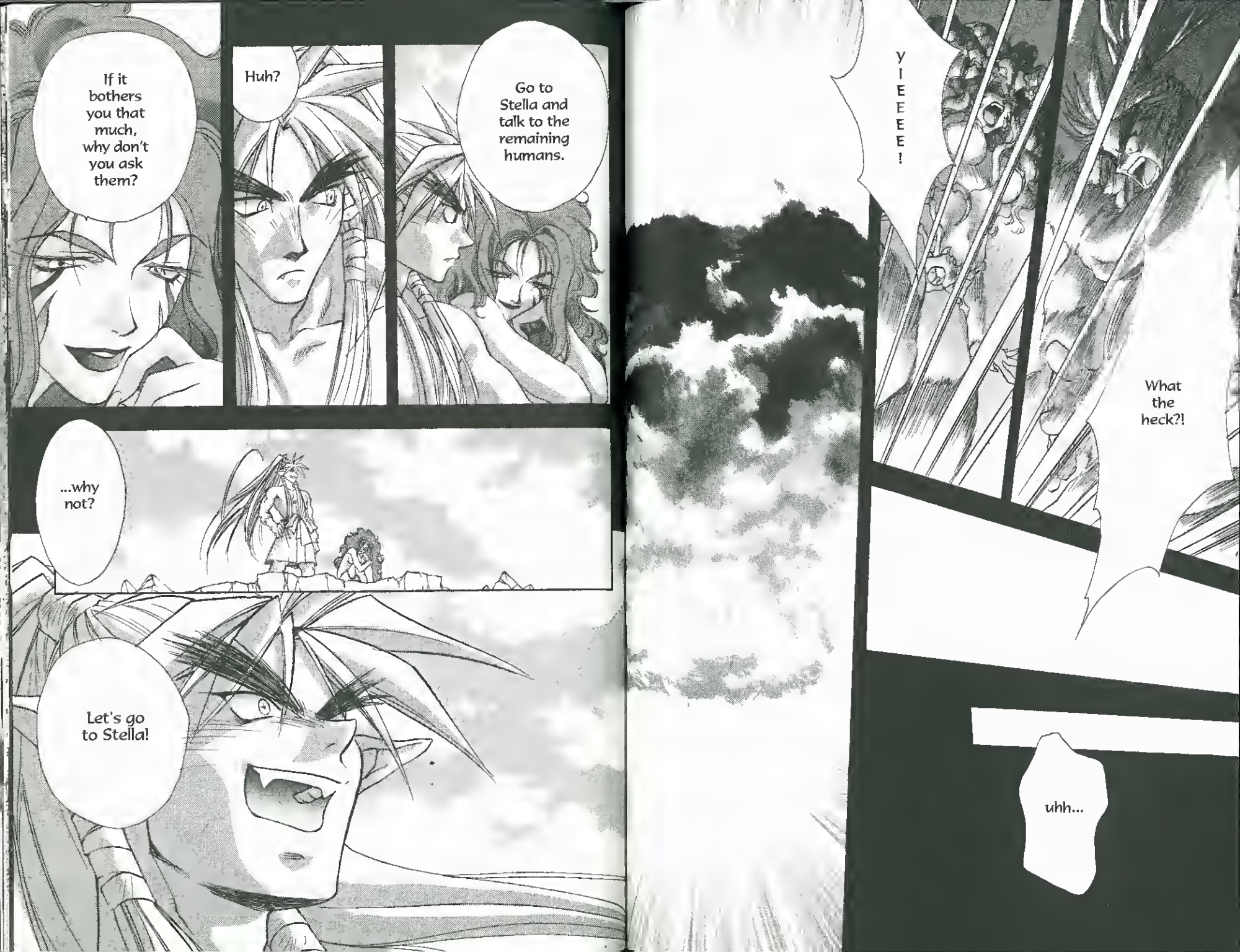
THOOM

Huh...
How disap-pointing.
Well, that's too bad...
Gin Namba? What's up?

Cool Mint and Almond Rassel are preparing to attack Stella.
Oh? Is that so?
Don't you want to join them, Cashew Price?
Someday we'll fight it out, as Lords of Darkness.
I like that about you.
But until then, let's be friendly.
Huh! I'm not taking orders from anyone!
Besides if Stella is destroyed, then it's war between the Four Lords of Darkness.
I should just watch and conserve my strength.
TP
Mm-hm?
But you can never sit still when there s a fight taking place.
W-what!

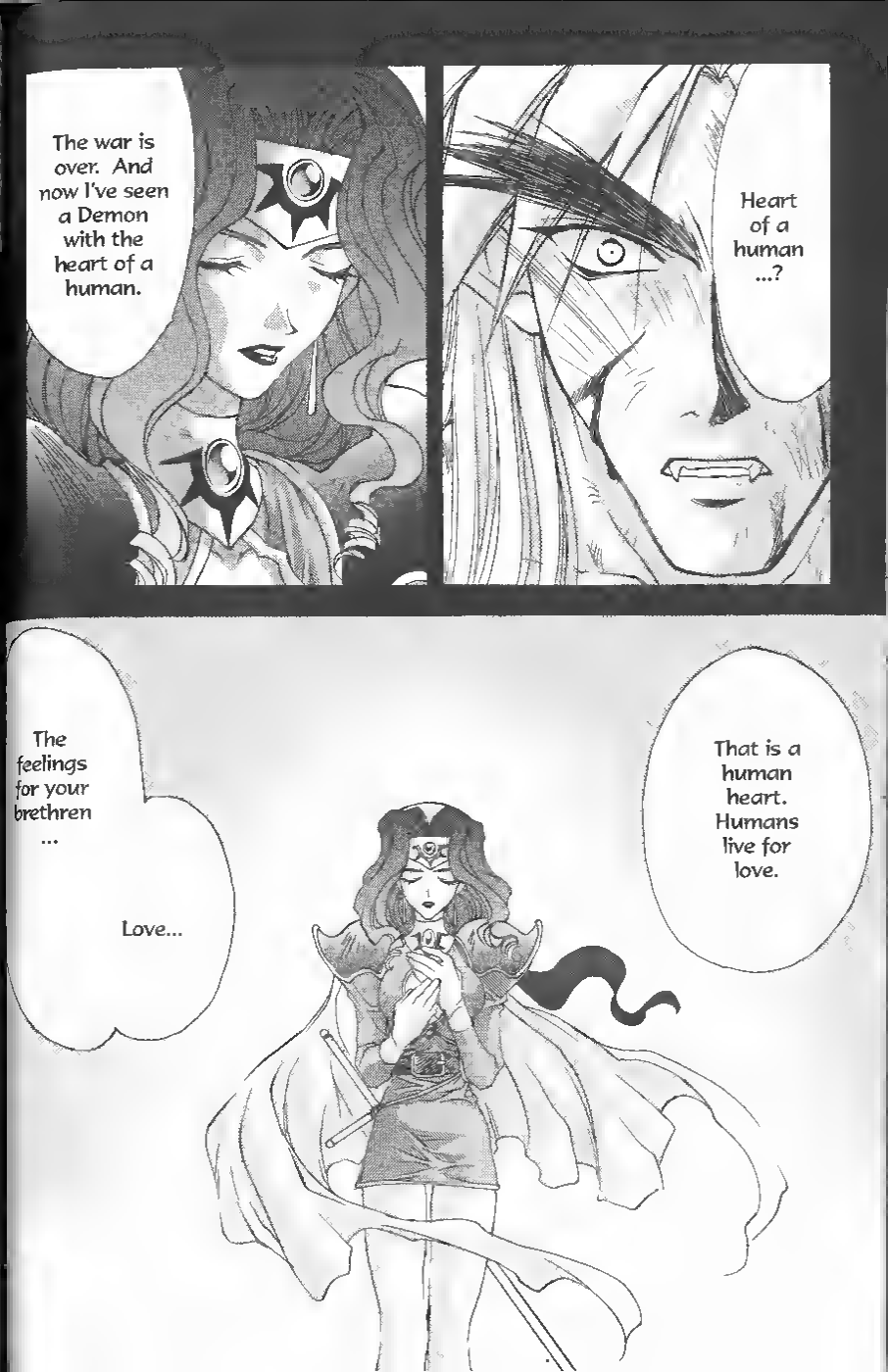
What's wrong?
Somehow ... It's no longer satisfying ...
Fighting ...
...
From the time we were born into this world, we've been fighting. For hundreds of years.
Tearing the lifeforce from people and getting stronger and stronger...

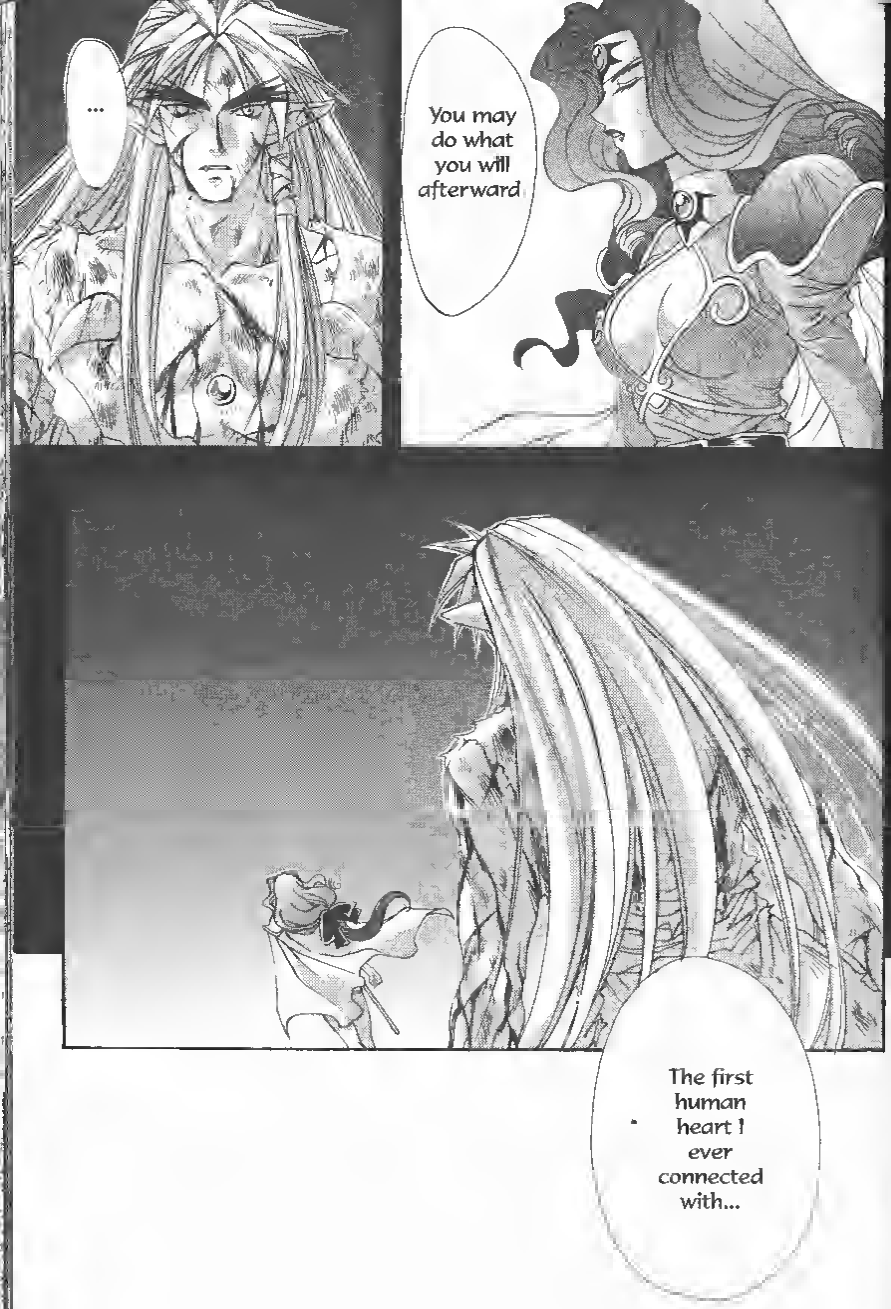
...
I fought with anyone and everyone to prove that I was the strongest in this world.
I killed anyone weaker than me... and yet...
So, even you have a conscience, Cashew.
Lemme 'lone.
That almost sounds like human emotion.
Human, huh...
The humans die so quickly. What do they have to look forward to in life?
Hmm ...
...


If it bothers you that much, why don't you ask them?
Huh?
Go to Stella and talk to the remaining humans.
...why not?
Let's go to Stella!
yIEEEE!
What the heck?!
uhh...

Ah!
Cashew ...
Gin Namba ?!
tch...
SHF
A heartless, merciless Lord of Darkness willing to defend his brethren?
Lord of Darkness, Cashew Price.
You!
SHP
ZING
uh...

Shaddup!
See to their wounds.
Lady Kanure ?!
What ?!


The war is over. And now I've seen a Demon with the heart of a human.
Heart of a human ...?
The feelings for your brethren ...
Love...
That is a human heart. Humans live for love.


...
You may do what you will afterward
The first human heart I ever connected with...

That encounter never left my mind...

... Not bad.

Uhh...
But next time ...
CHOOM
SHP
SKSH
TUMBLE TUMBLE
You sacrificed your left arm to dodge my bullet.
I'll do whatever it takes.
...
...

You think you can hide there?
VROOM
What'll I do? Barriers are useless against him...
I have to hide my aura so that he can't find me...

BAANG
At this rate...
The only way to hide my aura...

is like this!
THUD
FLOP
URK!

I can't sense his presence...?

CRK
CRIK
uhhh...
DIE!
VWOOM
!
SNP
HOOM

OHHHH!
What a fool! You injured yourself in your attempt to escape.
HFF
HFF
This ends now.
WOOMM

SHF

uh...
We can't lose...
Not here ...
Even if...
it is you, Father ...

We will defeat you...

uh...
ah...

FLOP

To be continued in Sorcerer Hunters 13

Preview for Sorcerer Hunters 13:

With our epic tale drawing to a close, we find both the team, as well as the entire world, struggling through its darkest hour. Carrot, our irrepressible hero, has become the unwitting pawn in an apocalyptic scheme. Slumbering within him is the incarnation of the God of Destruction, and the Lords of Darkness are determined to awaken it. If they succeed, it will mean the end of all existence.

In order to defeat the evil spirit of Almond Rassel, Onion must destroy the corporeal form of his long-lost, beloved Apricot. But which of the myriad images is the real body? And even if Onion divines the truth, can he actually commit the act?

Grand Pa, Cashew Price, while facing down the cruel Cool Mint, recalls what drew him to humanity and away from the Lords of Darkness so many years ago. Cashew may be more ancient and weaker than Cool Mint, but an old ally is ready to aid him in what may be his final stand.

Nearby, both Gateau and Marron each lay their lives on the line in valiant, last-ditch efforts to stop old foes risen from the grave.

As for the sexy siblings, Tira and Chocolat, will they escape the clutches of the sinister and powerful Lord Sacher — their father?

Outside the shielded city, the Haz-Knights are regrouping, prepared to die if necessary in order to contain Charlotte, who also possesses the ability to release the God of Destruction.

But even the heroic efforts of the Sorcerer Hunters may not be enough to keep the God of Destruction from awakening

Don t miss the conclusion to our saga in SORCERER HUNTERS 13!

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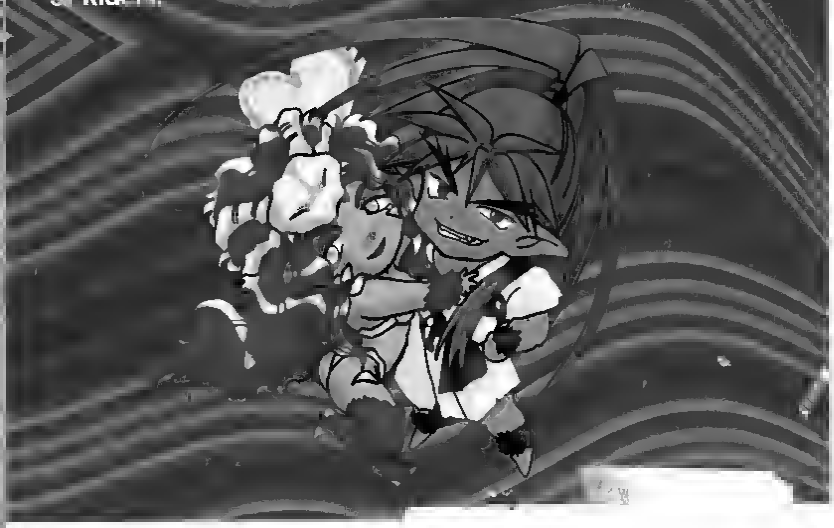
Sorcerer Hunters

The once sex-starved Carrot, the unwitting pawn in a struggle for power in Spoolner, wrestles with issues of lust and loyalty during a passionate moment with the beautiful Mousse. However, it is this lovely young girl who may usher in not only Carrot's demise, but that of the whole temporal world as well. When Carrot tries to deny his baser urges, his less discerning doppelganger appears and goads him on. It will take the combined might of the Sorcerer Hunters to snatch Carrot back from the forces of darkness in a battle that revives the clash between the sorcerer-created God of Destruction and mankind's counterpart, the living city of Ridelh.



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